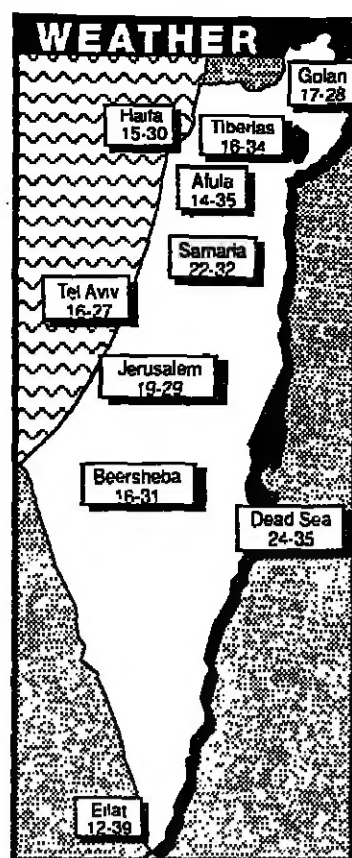


US President Bill Clinton called Rabin late Wednesday to personally "express his condolences over the killings of Israeli civilians in Hadera," White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said.



AROUND THE WORLD

Location	Low	High	Conditions
Amsterdam	04	38	11 52
Berlin	04	38	11 52
Buenos Aires	12	54	24 75
Caracas	18	61	31 88
Chicago	08	43	11 52
Copenhagen	05	41	10 50
Frankfurt	05	41	10 50
Geneva	05	41	10 50
Helsinki	04	39	13 53
Hong Kong	19	68	25 77
London	04	39	13 53
Los Angeles	14	57	26 80

APOLOGY
On February 25 *The Jerusalem Post* published a report which asserted that the police found "apparent wrongdoing by Tsomet Jerusalem City Councillor Ariel Cohen."

The report was incorrect, a result of an unfortunate confusion with another Tsomet official named Cohen.

The *Jerusalem Post* regrets the error and apologizes to Prof. Ariel Cohen for any distress and embarrassment the story may have caused him.

Terrorist was known to GSS

YIGAL KOTZER and agencies

THE terrorist who carried out the suicide attack in Hadera was known by the General Security Service to have been involved in Hamas activities, but he was not considered to be a serious security threat, the Itim news agency reported.

Amar Amarna, 21, from the village of Yabad in Samaria, had been under GSS surveillance in an attempt to track down more serious Hamas terrorists. Amarna had been known to organize stonethrowing and other disturbances.

In a leaflet distributed yesterday in Gaza, Hamas warned it was planning three more attacks. It said public buses were a target and urged Israeli Arabs not



Amar Amarna. (Khaled Zighari)

to use them. An Arab woman was among the seven Israelis killed in the Afula bombing last week.

"Our brethren, the Arabs of 1948 should stay away from crowded Israeli areas and we advise them not to take Israeli buses so they won't be hurt in our future operations," the leaflet said.

Hamas also said the attack was a "new security and intelligence triumph."

"This is the second in a series of five attacks that Izzadin Kassem has planned," the leaflet said.

Amarna's father set up a mourning tent at his home in Yabad, but the IDF prevented anyone from visiting the family.

"We raise our heads high in pride and honor," said his brother, Usama.

Rabin to Mapam: Join Labor, double your power in Histadrut

MICHAEL YUDLEMAN

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin is to appear at Mapam's convention on Sunday to appeal to Mapam members to leave Meretz and support Labor Party incumbent Haim Haberfeld in the Histadrut elections.

Labor Party leaders have offered Mapam to double the smaller party's power in the Histadrut from 9 percent to 18 percent in exchange for joining Labor to form one front for the elections.

The offer was made by Labor Party secretary-general Nissim Zivili, who yesterday urged Mapam leaders to quit Meretz

and renew the historical alliance with Labor. Should this happen, Meretz would be left with the Citizens Rights Movement and Shinui, which today has no Histadrut representation.

Mapam is divided between those who favor joining former health minister Haim Ramon's list, MK Haim Oron, head of Mapam's list, favors the union with Ramon, while other oppose the move due to Ramon's social and economic positions. The latter consists of Mapam's Histadrut activists, who are

considering splitting the party and joining Labor if Mapam's convention votes for staying with Meretz and going with Ramon.

Labor Party leaders hope that if Mapam forms a partnership with Labor, then Shas, whose executive is now leaning towards Ramon, will reconsider and go with Labor as well.

Should Mapam, Meretz's organizational backbone, quit and go with Labor, Ramon's chances of winning a good percentage in the elections would decrease, and in this case Shas would prefer to make a deal with Labor.

PIPEBOMB

(Continued from Page One)

brought out when the number of casualties became apparent. "The main problem was that many of the people were in shock and it took us a long time to calm them down. It was a terrible scene out there," he said.

The station was closed and all bus operations were conducted outside until the area was declared safe some five hours later. Only after sappers had ascertained that there were no more bombs were the bodies taken away.

Dozens of angry residents from Hadera and its environs converged on the central bus station. Several of them held aloft placards denouncing government policy.

"Rabin, our blood is on your head," read one of the placards, as several demonstrators called on the prime minister to resign, and chanted slogans praising Baruch Goldstein, perpetrator of the Hebron massacre.

The demonstrations, however, did not erupt into violence, and the large force of police on duty

did not have to intervene. President Ezer Weizman, who visited the wounded, called on the public to show restraint at "this difficult hour."

"We don't surrender in the middle of a battle and in the battle for peace, we have to demonstrate determination and strength," he said.

Weizman, who lives nearby in Caesarea, said he hoped the attack would not affect the generally harmonious relations between Jews and Arabs in the region.

Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur, who also visited the wounded, said the attack was "another blow in addition to the feelings we already have on this day."

"I have to admit that for me personally, I was almost at the limit of being able to absorb. Nevertheless, I realized that these are the moments when we have to make sure we can continue and strengthen ourselves from within. We have to struggle with the pain and make sure we succeed in the future," he said.

Poll: Netanyahu now favored over Rabin

Jerusalem Post Staff

IF the election for prime minister were held today, Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu would get 44 percent of the vote to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's 38%, according to Gallup-Israel. Eighteen percent of the respondents were undecided.

This is the first time since Netanyahu's election as Likud party chairman that he topped Rabin. However, in a three-way race, in which Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan would also be a candidate, Rabin would receive the largest number of votes - 34%, to Netanyahu's 29% and Eitan's 18%.

The poll, taken in regular intervals since January, shows a steady decline in Rabin's popularity, from a peak of 44% in a three-way race on January 31st, and 49% against Netanyahu's 34% in a two-way match on that date.

The sample is country-wide, representing 500-600 Hebrew speaking adults. The margin of error is 4%.

BURIED

(Continued from Page One)

his family during Operation Solomon in 1991, and worked in a factory at Gan Shmuel while living in the caravan camp at Hadera. He was in Hadera on the day of the blast to visit family at the caravan site. He left a wife and five children.

Bilha Butin, 49, is to be buried on Sunday. Butin worked in the credit department of Bank Hapoalim in Hadera, was on her way to Tel Aviv when the explosion occurred. She had been abandoned several years ago by her husband, who fled abroad, and finally received a divorce only a few weeks ago. She left her mother, two sons, a daughter, and two brothers.

Judy Siegel adds: Only three of those wounded in the terrorist attack were still in hospital last night: two lightly injured and one suffering light-to-moderate injuries.

Hadera's Hillel Yaffe Hospital, which had treated all the wounded, said the most seriously injured among those who survived the attack was Keren Salzmanovich, a soldier from Ramat Gan, who suffered shrapnel wounds in her leg. Rahel Musillem and Esther Damin were being treated in the surgical wards for their injuries. Both women are in their 40s. Amir Rozenblit contributed to this report.

SOUTH AFRICA

(Continued from Page One)

I believe it is in the interest of both countries to dash such perceptions as soon as possible.

"South Africa traditionally had good relations with Israel for many years and seeks to have good relations with other countries in the region," he said, adding there was no reason for South Africa's ties abroad to be influenced by regional conflicts.

South Africa recently established ties with Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, Tunisia and Morocco, he said, mostly at the charge d'affaires level.

"Our Moslem community, which was never isolated from the region, has played a major role in assisting South Africa to expand its ties in the region," Ferguson said. "They had high-level contacts."

He said that the South African government was facilitating Moslem cultural links with countries like Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and Iran. The current government had helped the Moslem community by supporting humanitarian charitable efforts in Moslem countries, just as the Jews had been helped to support such efforts in Israel, Ferguson added.

"If our citizens have an interest in dealing with certain countries, the South African government - as part of the end to isolation - will have to address these needs, even if this involves problems," he said. "This has always been the case with the Jews and now we have the same obligation to the Moslems, to balance the equation."

On the question of South African Jewry's future, Ferguson said: "I see no reason why their relationship with Israel will change. They are a very valued community and contribute far beyond their numbers, especially in economic terms. They have a very enviable record of opposing apartheid and leading ANC members are Jewish. South Africa loves its Jews. I have no doubt they will stay on there."

As for this month's elections, there are up to 10,000 persons in Israel who potentially qualify for a vote and about one million worldwide, Ferguson said. Anyone aged 18 or more with a valid South African identity card or passport can vote. In Israel, the vote will take place on Tuesday, April 26, at the Tel Aviv Fairgrounds. The elections are on April 27 and 28 in South Africa.

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Wife of Superpharm chief arrested for drug possession

Irit Koffler, the wife of the owner of Superpharm a member of the Strauss Dairies family, was released on NIS 7000 bail by the Tel Aviv Magistrates Court Wednesday. She is suspected of possessing cocaine and marijuana.

She was arrested together with Johnny Fuchs and Yaffa and Uri Grinbal, at the latter's home. The Grinbals were also released on bail.

Police found nine grams of cocaine and small quantities of marijuana and hashish in the apartment.

Fuchs, who police suspect sold the other drugs, was remanded in custody for six days.

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Condemnations and deeds

PERHAPS the most ludicrous example of Arab condemnations of terrorist attacks was provided not by Israel's current negotiating partners, but by King Hussein. He was reportedly in the middle of an interview with a Swedish journalist when informed of the Hadera bus bomb. Unlike the evasive Yasser Arafat, the king immediately expressed his revulsion and regret.

But Hussein's sympathy for terror victims seemed a little strained, when within hours the Hamas spokesman in Amman, the king's own capital, proudly took credit for the Hadera bomb and promised three more murderous strikes to avenge the Hebron massacre. As few observers have noticed, the Hamas headquarters for operations in Israel is in Amman, a fact which should have qualified the Jordanian regime for the State Department's list of states sponsoring terrorism, no matter how sincere Hussein's condemnation of terrorist acts may be.

Indeed, utterances of condemnation, forced by international diplomatic pressure and American arm-twisting, are exercises in hypocrisy. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres seems aware of this. When on Wednesday he expected Arafat to ignore the bomb in Hadera the way he had skirted the issue of Afula, Peres rationalized the PLO leader's silence in advance by saying that what matters is Arafat's deeds, not his words.

Now that Arafat has finally "rejected," though not "condemned" the Hadera massacre, it may be wise to do precisely what Peres suggests: scrutinize acts, not words. This has been done by Peace Watch, a non-partisan organization led by prominent figures on both sides of the political fence. Surveying compliance with the agreement by the PLO and Israel from September 13 to April 13 - the date originally set for the conclusion of withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho - Peace Watch points out that "elements within Fatah have, since the signing of the DOP, been involved in 37 acts of violence aimed at Israelis and involving the use of guns, knives, grenades, bombs, and land mines... Four of the attacks resulted in the death of five Israelis."

In addition, two other factions in the PLO, the PFLP and DFLP - for which Arafat, in his letter to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, promised to assume responsibility - took credit for nine attacks in which four Israelis were killed.

To say, as Rabin has done, that "the majority of the terrorist acts have been committed by Islamic fanatics, over whom Arafat has no control" is therefore misleading. The fact is that most of the Israeli fatalities have been caused by Hamas and Islamic Jihad; not because Fatah has not tried to kill Israelis, but

because the Islamic fanatics have used suicide terrorists who have been more successful in their deadly task.

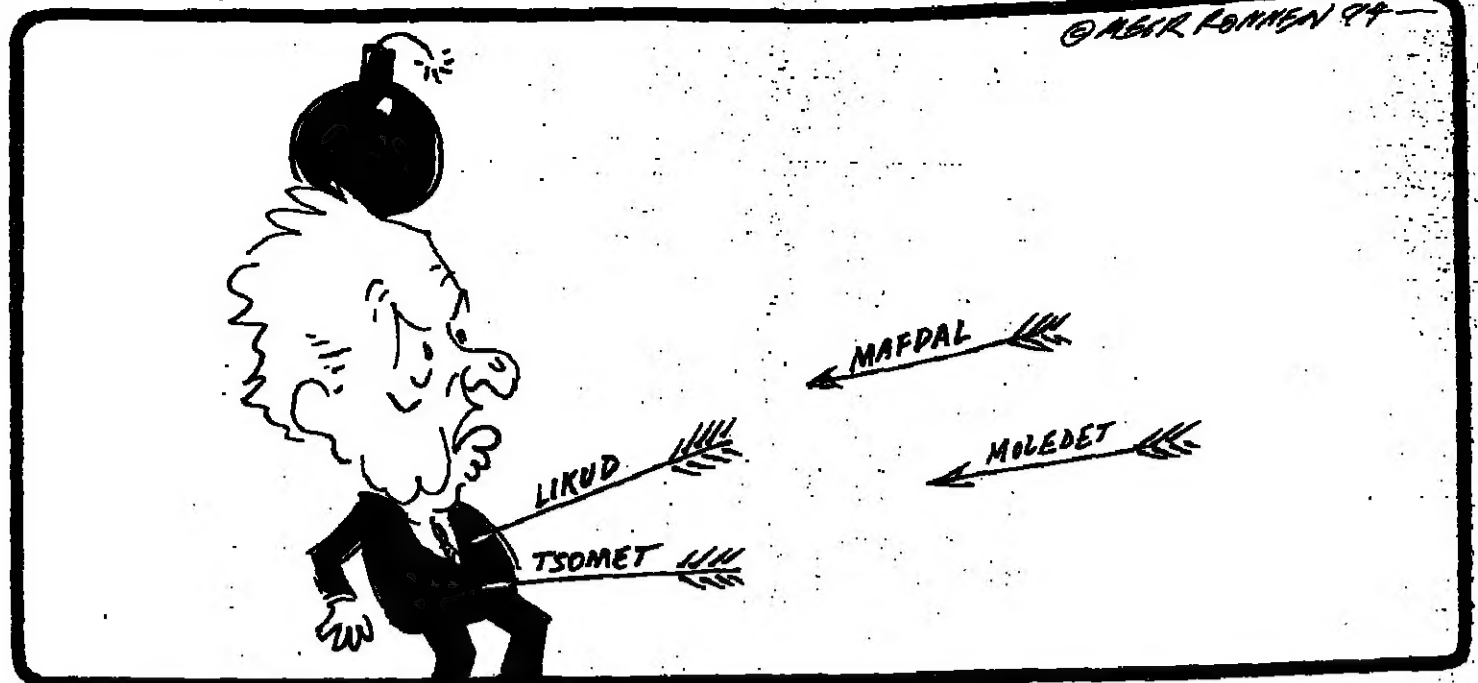
Nor can one take seriously Rabin's claim that as long as Arafat has no means with which to control his people, he cannot be fairly tested. The steps Arafat could take include not only words of condemnation and reprimand, but deeds like ending financial support to factions and individuals engaging in terrorism, or expelling violators from the organization.

As Peace Watch points out, "One striking example is the Abu Rish Brigades, a faction related to the Fatah Hawks which publicly declared that it does not regard itself as bound by the PLO's decision to end violence, and carried out a number of attacks on Israeli targets. The Abu Rish Brigades receives most of its financial support directly from Fatah offices in Tunis and Gaza. It is channeled principally through Arafat Abu Shabab, and Sami Samhadane. Samhadane, who works in the official Fatah office in Rafiah and was, until January, the head of the Fatah organization in the Gaza Strip, controls large sums of money and supplies each fighter in the Abu Rish Brigades with a monthly salary equivalent to approximately \$500."

To say, then, that the perpetrators of terrorist attacks against Israelis are trying to kill "the process" - an assertion both the government and the US administration repeat with mindless regularity - is to distort reality. The terrorist groups all share the immediate goal of the PLO negotiators: to effect an Israeli withdrawal from "occupied land" as quickly and completely as possible. Hamas leaders have vowed not to do anything that might stop Israeli withdrawal.

Like the dictatorial regimes which support them, the terrorists believe that negotiations should be accompanied by shooting. They assume that the Israeli public's impatience with delay in the negotiations will grow in direct relation to the number of casualties it suffers. Like the Syrians, who use Hizbullah as their shooting arm while their Washington delegates do the talking, the PLO relies on Hamas, Islamic Jihad, the PLO "rejectionists," and the Fatah Hawks to provide the counterpoint of death to the negotiations.

Those who say, as the government has done, that the right response to terrorism is to accelerate the negotiations and withdrawal process, in the expectation that violence will cease with the signing of an agreement, are doing precisely what the terrorists want them to do. It is they, not those who call for the suspension of the talks, who play into the terrorists' hands.



Oslo's dreams down the drain

YASSER Arafat didn't personally ask Israel to lift the closure of the territories.

But the PLO chief's liaison personnel in Cairo, Tunis and Jerusalem have all vociferously demanded that it not be extended beyond Independence Day. Because of this demand, the government delayed ratifying the decision previously adopted by the ministerial security committee.

Despite the urgings by Israel and the US, Arafat has persisted in refusing to make any public denunciation of the loathsome killings in Afula last week, compelling Israel to swallow his failure to fulfill his written commitment.

In notes exchanged through the Norwegian foreign minister, Arafat had pledged to condemn and contain terrorism and acts of violence. But even in a telephone conversation with Yitzhak Rabin this week, he avoided any clearcut condemnation of the Afula massacre.

While Israel has been unable to budge him in this point, Arafat has, indirectly, succeeded in delaying a government decision regarding vital security measures for our citizens. The final decision on the closure will be adopted only at Sunday's cabinet meeting.

One recalls the days when PLO terrorists torched buses carrying Arab laborers from Judea, Samaria and Gaza to work in Israel - and the resolutions by various Palestinian organizations forbidding such work "for the Zionist enemy."

Now, however, the worm has turned: PLO leaders know that working in Israel provides the livelihoods of at least 600,000 Palestinians, with the number of laborers involved reaching a peak of 120,000. For the time being, they have no other means of income.

This explains the gap between PLO ideology, which advocates

economic disengagement from Israel (with a separate currency bearing Arafat's likeness, and separate customs regulations), and the reality of Palestinian dependence on Israel's economy and on Palestinians working here.

A parallel development has been unfolding in Israeli society. All the "doves" who for years op-

posed employing workers from "the territories" on the grounds that it caused their economic integration into Israel now have reservations about extending the closure.

The ministers who publicly advocated a separate Palestinian state are now screaming out against the closure, which is causing unemployment for tens of thousands of Palestinians who will in future be detached from Israel.

Their argument is that closing off the territories will doom hundreds of thousands of Palestinians to hunger. This is, on the face of it, a humanitarian argument. But in practice, it amounts to bowing to the PLO's demand. That organization has panicked at the prospect of assuming responsibility for sustaining the population it is about to inherit.

This being the case and with the entire world mobilized to help "Palestinian autonomy," what will happen if the PLO's dream of Jewish one, to reduce the possibility of terrorist strikes.

In Oslo was born the delusion that Arafat could curb Palestinian terrorism - a mistaken assumption which caused Israel to support Arafat and enhance his image in world public opinion. This is how the impression came about that Arafat holds the key to ending terrorism and violence.

Now, after Afula, even the Americans are admitting this was a mistake. Arafat cannot promise quiet, which means Israel must take the initiative to restrain attacks on its citizens, by both fighting terrorism actively and preventing potential attackers from concentrating Jewish population centers to carry out mass killings.

And if the choice comes down to employing residents of Kabatiya or sacrificing the lives of Jewish pupils in Afula, those lives come first. It is nothing less than the government's obligation to its people.

That is the criterion ministers

Whether the PLO likes the closure of the territories is irrelevant. The government must protect Jewish lives

MOSHE ZAK

must adopt in deciding on the closure - not whether the PLO likes it or not.

An extended closure would also indicate Israel's interpretation of the clause in the Oslo Agreement governing free passage between Gaza and Jericho. The negotiators in Oslo hit upon the improvisation that three highways could provide this passage. They turned down the idea of a Palestinian extraterritorial road linking the two areas and cutting Israel in half.

But they didn't consider the security implications of thousands of Palestinian vehicles traveling back and forth on three highways day and night. In the euphoria of Oslo, they still believed the PLO could impose its fiat on all the terror groups and prevent them from sneaking car-bombs onto those highways.

Today, with that dream down the drain, Israel must think about security measures to block such infiltrations.

The safety of individual Israeli citizens comes before Palestinian "dignity."

With the avenues of active war against Palestinian terror diminished by the imminent IDF withdrawal, Israel is left with only one choice: passive defense to reduce potential Palestinian terrorism.

We cannot afford the terror of organizations the luxury of both supporting their relatives and easier means of crossing over to perpetrate murderous attacks.

The cabinet's decision this Sunday won't simply be an administrative one. It will be security based, with long-term political significance.

Intentionally or otherwise, it will signal the government's shedding of the delusion that the PLO is a partner in fighting terror.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRIVILEGES

Sir, - As he reviews the evidence given to the Commission of Inquiry into the murders at the Cave of Machpela, Judge Abdel Rahman Zuabi might humbly reflect that his position on the commission's panel owes nothing to Islamic teachings and Arab values, but everything to Jewish ethics and Israeli democracy. In no Islamic or Arab state would a judge, however senior his position, be allowed to cross-examine the prime minister and the army chief of staff, under oath, and subsequently pass public judgment on their actions; and most certainly not a judge who is both with and kin of that state's mortal enemies.

And those of our leaders who are keenest to be disencumbered from their Jewish baggage - territorial, biblical and rabbinical - might ponder whether even in one of those cool, enlightened, neutral and even-handed states into whose loving care the citizens of Hebron are now to be entrusted, a judge, even a home-born "fair-haired" one, would be allowed the privileges given to Judge Zuabi in the Jewish State of Israel.

JEREMY I. PFEFFER
Rehovot.

ENOUGH!

Sir, - I have had enough of Foreign Minister Peres telling us that the way to peace entails painful sacrifices, but no murderers of terrorists will prevent us from forging ahead. I have had enough of begging Arafat to condemn the murders perpetrated by the Fatah Hawks and the Hamas. I have had enough of a government that has no backbone and does not act to protect us from attacks within the Green Line. I have had enough of rabbis acting as politicians and Shas extorting concessions from the government.

I call upon the government to resign immediately and hold a snap election. Let the voice of the voting public be heard. Let us decide what policy to formulate, what steps to take.

RABBI STANLEY LEVIN
Petah Tikva.

THE IDF RABBINATE

Sir, - One of the many tragic aspects of the recent "disobey orders to vacate settlers" proclamation is that it seriously undermines an institution highly prized by the religious Zionist camp itself: the IDF rabbinat.

The most that the three rabbis involved should have done is attempt to convince the army rabbinat that their halachic position - which, of course, has been challenged by many other rabbinic authorities - is correct. Had the IDF rabbinat concurred in their ruling, it would then have had to issue binding regulations in this regard - similar to those in effect with regard to kashrut, Shabbat activities, etc. As it stands, the call to disobey orders borders on sedition.

MICHAEL GORDON
Jerusalem.

MESSIANIC STUPIDITY

Sir, - It is not the right wing which is Messianic. It is the Labor and Meretz ministers who have their head in the clouds. To think that the Arab world is going to renounce violence and turn into our friends is Messianic stupidity at its worst.

Having worked with battered women for over 30 years, I am quite familiar with the mentality of terrorists. As long as the victim gives in, terrorists put on a charming front. The minute the victim takes a firm stand, they turn violent again. Terrorists don't change. Arafat is the same Arafat of the Munich massacres. Thinking he has changed is nothing but wishful Messianism.

The average abused woman must be beaten up 35 times before she finally realizes that her man is not going to change. How many more wars do we need before we realize that the Arabs are out to destroy us? Why aren't Rabin and company taking them seriously when they say this, day in and day out? Their Messianic fervor has blinded them to the truth.

MIRIAM ADAHAN
Jerusalem.

LICENSE TO KILL

Sir, - Seven innocent people were murdered in an Afula car-bomb attack and all Mr. Rabin can say is that the peace process must go on. By such words, Mr. Rabin gives our enemies a license to kill Jews for they shall pay no price. He is telling our enemies to kill Jews for they can only gain and not lose: more territory, a Palestinian state, and whatever they want comes by just killing a few more Jews.

Why should the attacks stop when a piece of paper is signed? After all, Rabin has said over and over again, the killing of Jews does not alter the course of the peace process. How many Jews must die before this government is willing to step beyond this folly and start taking action to prevent the destruction of the Jewish nation?

ISRAEL SILVERBERG
Karmiel.

CHANNEL 7

Sir, - Channel 7 is for many the electronic voice of opposition to present government policy. It is in many ways doing the kind of critical reporting which the more powerful electronic media ordinarily do in a democracy.

Any attempt to silence Channel 7 (as Minister Sarid has suggested) must be understood as an effort to silence the voice of the opposition. Even supporters of present government policy must understand there can be no more severe threat to democracy than that.

SHALOM FREEDMAN
Jerusalem.

KISHON AGAIN

Sir, - Now that several letters have appeared complaining about Kishon's old-fashioned columns (when was the last time you met a Romanian immigrant who hadn't learned Hebrew?), isn't it time to explain that these weekly columns are all reruns? On that basis, maybe they'll be better appreciated.

MARK L. LEVINSON
Herzliya.

Kishon's weekly columns are indeed reruns. EA - J.P.

What could follow Ramon's flight

HAIM Ramon's split from the Labor Party leadership to run at the head of a separate list in the Histadrut elections will have major ramifications. These will go far beyond the futures of the Histadrut and the party, of Ramon himself and of MKs Amir Peretz and Shmuel Avital.

There is much more than a kernel of truth to Ramon's claim that in his principled fight for the health reform bill, he championed - to the point of resigning as minister of health and from the cabinet - goals that Prime Minister Rabin himself supported, but lacked either the guts or political resources to push through against Histadrut opposition.

There is also much to be said for the contention that in his heart of hearts, Rabin wouldn't be too sad to see Ramon defeat Haim Haberfeld, Labor's official candidate for Histadrut secretary-general - especially since Haberfeld and the rest of the party's Histadrut oligarchy are the political mainstays of his arch-rival for the party leadership, Foreign Minister Peres.

But the immediate impact of Ramon's decision to split away from the party line, in defiance of Rabin, is the significant weakening of the premier's near-total command over his own party as regards the peace process and the impending stages of negotiations with Syria and the Palestinians.

If Ramon, Peretz and Avital had the temerity to flout Rabin's will and the party machine's over the issue of Histadrut and Kupat Holim health fund reform, there is good reason to believe that the even larger bloc of Labor Knesset faction hawks will, when the time comes, screw up their political courage.

They will block any decision to negotiate a withdrawal from the Golan with Syria or speed up the talks with the PLO on the future of the rest of the territories beyond what was stipulated in the Oslo Agreements.

The significant hawkish minority in Labor's Knesset faction has been relatively silent since the dramatic breakthrough in talks with the Palestinians last summer. The main explanation for this is the fact that the party hawks have al-

ways seen Rabin as their leader. For all their trepidation over the cat-and-mouse game Rabin has been playing with Hafez Assad over a Golan-for-peace formula, they gave Rabin quite a bit of leeway to play the game as he saw fit.

Labor's hawks might decide to break ranks and put paid to Golan withdrawal

Ever since September, however, one of the great unknowns in Israeli politics has been how far Rabin will go in trying to entice Assad, and how far the Labor hawks will permit him to stray from the party's long-term commitment to hold onto the Golan.

RAMON AND his immediate supporters are extreme doves on the territories-for-peace issues, and Rabin can most likely depend on their support on those issues even if the party leadership decides to take a hard line against Ramon for his defection.

But this week a precedent was set. The declared will of the party majority and of Rabin himself was flouted.

Peres and his Foreign Ministry boys may be working up a very detailed plan for total Israeli withdrawal from the Golan, but the paper-thin majority which Rabin has in the Knesset means that a small but determined number of Labor hawks can set red lines that will put paid to all such plans. The operative word is determined; and this week's events may well have boosted that determination.

Much will also depend on who wins the Histadrut elections. Ramon and his yuppies are no heroes in my book; but if they turn out to be what it takes finally to break the entrenched Histadrut machine, more power to them.

Since there are no by-elections in the Knesset in the course of its four-year terms, the 'Histadrut election outcome is also interpreted by politicians as an indication

YOSEF GOELL

of the electorate's sentiments.

If Labor's Haberfeld list loses significantly in next month's vote, Labor councils will see it as a warning to the party leadership against further precipitate steps regarding withdrawal on the Golan and the extent of Palestinian

Labor's hawks might decide to break ranks and put paid to Golan withdrawal

autonomy in the rest of Judea and Samaria.

Political realities in Israel are such that there is wide popular support for the initial withdrawal from Gaza; but then a halt will be called in order to await the evidence of PLO behavior in Gaza and Jericho and its performance in combating terrorism in the rest of the territories. Rabin won't have the political backing for more than that.

POSTSCRIPTS

ANTONIA HATZAKIS sent a message to her fiancé in June 1987 telling him she was expecting a baby.

The letter finally reached him in January 1994, and it was opened by the little boy with whom she had been pregnant.

The letter took six years and eight months to travel 145 km between the Crete towns of Chania and Iraklion.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS have discovered the body of a man in Iran preserved in a salt quarry for 2,600 years.

An official of the Cultural Heritage Organization said the pickled corpse, with a gold earring in its left ear, was found in the village of Chehrabad. "The eyebrows, moustache and beard on the face of the man, who apparently died in the partial collapse of the quarry and was buried under thick layers of salt, have remained intact," he said.

Despite my political reservations and suspicion of Ramon, I cannot but express admiration for a politician who is ready to break out of the mold of party-lining mediocrity and run real risks, putting his entire political future on the line.

There is also long-range calculation behind this political daring. What forced Rabin to back down at the last moment from support for Ramon's health reform bill is the fact that Histadrut-affiliated members constitute the majority in the party's central committee. Rabin was not willing or able to take on that Histadrut-controlled majority in the central committee.

That same majority also threatens to put an effective stop to Ramon's career in the party and in the government. It thus became essential for him to attempt to wrest control of that gigantic bloc in the party central committee if he is serious about making a try for the party leadership and the premiership by the end of the decade.

The writer is a commentator on public affairs.

HERE IS an evildoer who may not be smart, but who sure is endowed with hutzpa.

Todd Lee Johnson stole a car. He was caught and sentenced to 18 years for carjacking.

But before he began his sentence, he sued San Mateo County, California, for \$2,794, demanding that the authorities return or reimburse him for items he forgot in the stolen car.

The belongings included a \$350 wedding dress, maps, jackets, shoes, books, luggage, a coat and a high school equivalency certificate.

Johnson's property was still in the car when it was returned to its owner, who donated the items to charity.

The San Mateo County Counsel's office is reviewing Johnson's claim. "It's pretty outrageous, although nothing surprises me any more," the district attorney said.

مكتبة القدس

Hitler's scheming heir in Russia

JAMES T. HACKETT

TRANSLATED excerpts from Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's recent book, *The Final Thrust South*, have just been published by the Heritage Foundation of Washington DC. This outrageous hero of millions of dissatisfied Russians tells in his own words how he would solve his country's economic and social problems by waging a new war of imperial expansion to the south.

He would relieve Russia's economic distress by sending the Russian army into Turkey, Afghanistan and Iran. Such a stroke would realize the tsarist dream of extending Russia's borders to the shores of the Indian Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, in cooperation with "friendly Iraq."

This "solution" would help solve Russia's social problems. The new territories in the south would become warm-weather resorts for the industrial north, while the non-Slavic people of the conquered countries would provide cheap labor for Russian factories, helping restore the inefficient centralized industries.

Such a war, claims Zhirinovskiy, would restore the shattered morale of the Russian army, eliminate the "Moslem peril" to the south, and divide and conquer the Turkish-speaking world, which he looks on with disdain. America would be banished from the Near East, which would fall under Russia's sphere of influence.

Eager to wipe out the Red Army's military disgrace in Afghanistan, Zhirinovskiy proposes a Moslem conquest as the basis of a new Russian empire. In addition to dominating and suppressing the Moslem states to the south, Zhirinovskiy's Russia would reabsorb Latvia and Georgia, and make Lithuania and Ukraine "little republics" within Russia.

The European powers would do nothing to interfere with Russia's destiny, adds Zhirinovskiy, because elimination of the "Moslem peril" is in their best interest. Russia would help Germany return four million Turks to Turkey, and help France extricate itself from "American and Zionist influence." Only America would object, "but it won't inter-

fer," he says, because "the alternative is too grave."

On the surface, that appears ridiculous. After all, the US just led an international coalition in a war that stopped Iraq from occupying a neighbor and threatening the oil supplies of the Middle East. What makes Zhirinovskiy think he can succeed where Iraq could not?

The answer: Russian nuclear weapons and missile defenses. Russia, notes Zhirinovskiy, has

Zhirinovskiy's 'Stand in my way and I'll nuke you' threat signals the US it had better rethink its defense policy

strategic missiles with multiple warheads and rockets that provide a "shield in space." With thousands of nuclear weapons and both the means to deliver them and the will to use them, Zhirinovskiy believes no country would stand in his way.

He may be right. Would NATO or the UN take effective steps to oppose regional aggression by a nuclear-armed Russia? Would President Clinton send American troops to defend Afghanistan or Iran, or go to war to defend Turkey if Russia threatened to launch nuclear missiles at the US or its allies? It is highly unlikely.

THIS REVEALS one of the true values of nuclear weapons - the ability to hold major opponents at bay while using conventional forces in regional conflicts.

What makes this bizarre scenario frightening is that Zhirinovskiy isn't just a lone madman. He is successfully tapping the discontent of millions of Russians. The recent 253-67 vote in the Russian Parliament to grant am-

nesty to Yeltsin's opponents shows the strength of that discontent.

But aren't the Russians dismantling their nuclear weapons under the START agreements? In fact, while Russia has reduced some nuclear weapons, it still has over 9,000 strategic nuclear warheads capable of striking the US. The two START agreements are to cut that number down to about 3,000 - but not until the year 2003. Zhirinovskiy or someone like him could seize power tomorrow.

Meanwhile, despite a disastrous economy and pleas for Western economic aid, Russia continues to modernize its nuclear forces. Production of the SS-25, the most successful Soviet strategic missile because its rapid mobility makes it hard to find, is continuing. What's more, an improved SS-25, with new technology, new composite materials and much greater accuracy is now under development in Russia. The Russians also are flight testing an improved SS-N-30, their main submarine-launched ballistic missile.

This combination of continuing Russian development of new strategic weapons and the emergence of Hitler-like leaders who might use them calls for an early reassessment of the Clinton defense policy.

Under the START accords and the Clinton budget cuts, the US is rapidly disarming. In 1991, in the wake of Desert Storm, Congress authorized the development of a national missile defense. But last December, the administration scrapped that program on the grounds that there was no realistic missile threat to the US.

The desperate economic situation and uncertain political future of Russia requires the US to maintain a strong national defense, including a defense against Russia's nuclear missiles, to assure that those weapons cannot be used by a Russian leader like Zhirinovskiy to blackmail the West and paralyze US policy.

The writer is policy operations manager of Titan Systems, San Diego.



A dovetailing of delusions

VLADIMIR LUKIN

THE prevailing American expectation as the Soviet Union disintegrated was that post-Communist Russia would - after a fairly short period of shock therapy - transform itself into a lesser-developed, Westernized or at least Western-oriented country. In matters of foreign policy, it would be a loyal junior partner of the US.

Russian diplomats contributed to this delusion by going out of their way to convince Americans, by word and deed, that such a role was indeed the most natural one for a new Russia. Ironically, it is these same people who are now upset and angry at having been "taken for granted" by Americans and treated as lesser partners.

The problem, of course, is that Russians also had their delusions. Some tended to think that the country's post-Communist transition would be greatly facilitated by US assistance, and that the world emerging from the Cold War would be both benign and eternally grateful to Russia for having done away with communism.

Why, then, worry about security - something democrats don't like to do anyway - when Russians were about to be "integrated" into a civilized, democratic community? This combination of delusions on both sides led to the inflated rhetoric and euphoria of the "strategic partnership" in 1992-1993. Like the ill-fated detente of the early '70s, this partnership was oversold and underfunded, a fact for which Russians are now paying the price.

These problems could have been avoided. I was among those in Russia who warned early on that the posture being advocated for our country was unrealistic abroad and politically unsustainable at home: It would provoke an ultra-nationalistic backlash. Unfortunately, we were right. A wave of "infantile pro-Americanism," which I first described almost two years ago, brought about its opposite - infantile anti-Americanism.

Russia's internal transformation turned out to be much more contradictory, painful and slow than was generally expected. It was too messy to fit into the US stereotype of "reform." Meanwhile, America's own assistance to Russia was too little, too late.

IN SHORT, this has been a process of normalization of Russian foreign policy, proceeding in a fairly democratic way through public pressure, policy debates and consensus building. Yet many people in the US insist on seeing it as a sinister throwback

Russia's internal transformation doesn't fit the US 'reform' stereotype - and yet it's fairly democratic

In foreign and security policies, Russia had to revise its initial rosy presumptions because of the very real problems and threats that began to engulf it almost at once: wars and smaller conflicts on its new borders, flows of refugees moving into Russia and millions of Russians left in "the near abroad," a disastrous disruption of economic ties with its new neighbors, etc. All this has forced Russia into a more active role within the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Similarly, in dealing with the West, Russia soon discovered that the idyll of partnership with the US does not necessarily produce harmony in trade and economic relations or due regard for Russian traditional interests such as those in the Balkans. No wonder that, as the initial shock dissipated, Russia began to get serious about its reshaped national interests and to defend them more assertively.

to "Russian imperialism" and the Cold War.

Some of these people were spoiled by having had it too easy with Russia before. Others were simply adopting a double standard: It's OK for the US to have national interests, but when Russia does it, it's "nationalism" at work. And some, of course, were simply old Cold Warriors thinking in old patterns.

In recent times, there seem to have been two images of my country ingrained in the American political mind. One is of the global Cold War rival. The other is of a democratic, Westernized country playing the role of America's junior partner. Unfortunately, this oversimplified view causes many Americans to conclude that if Russia ceases to be the latter, it has to become once again the former.

But this is a false dichotomy in the spirit of an old Bolshevik motto: "Who is not with us, is against us." Russia today has neither aspirations nor resources to again become a global rival of the US - not today and not tomorrow. In fact, my country is in the process of redefining its national interests in a democratic, non-expansionist way.

But Russia cannot be an American satellite either, simply because it is not in the natural order of things. Having renounced suicidal globalist pretensions, Russia, by virtue of its size and resources, remains a great power with many legitimate interests in adjacent regions.

These interests for the most part don't conflict with America's, and many are quite compatible with them. This has been the case historically: pre-Soviet Russia and the US were among the very few great powers that never fought each other, and cooperated more than they competed. Now, after the aberrations of the Cold War and its aftermath, we are returning to this historical norm.

In fact, we can improve on it, since the new Russia is politically and culturally closer to the US than its predecessor.

Americans and Russians have to rediscover this historical norm and learn to live with its ambiguities. If we remain steady and realistic, avoiding both illusions and cynicism, we can make this transition successfully.

The writer, a former Soviet ambassador to the US, is chairman of the foreign affairs committee of Russia's parliament. (Washington Post)

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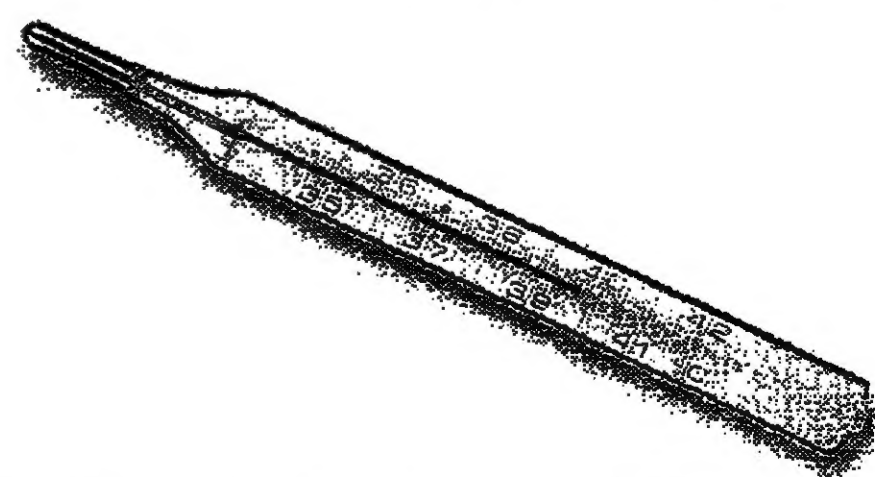
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Taas Israel Industries posts \$79 million loss

Jerusalem Post reporter

TAAS Israel Industries, which has not turned a profit since its conversion from an arm of the Defense Ministry to a state company in 1990, posted on Wednesday an operating loss for 1993 of \$79 million.

The company had an operating loss of \$87m. in 1992.

Taas's statement, released after Independence Day festivities began, said a government recovery plan for the ailing firm had forecast an operating loss of \$52m. for 1993.

It said reasons for the larger

than forecast loss included lengthy negotiations on laying off employees and continued operation of three non-profitable factories at the government's request.

Taas said it had received only \$385m. of the \$292m. in government aid it had been due to receive in 1993.

Sales were down to \$463m. from \$480m. in 1992.

Taas, hard hit by post-Cold War defense cuts, said its work force dropped to 5,620 in 1993 from 7,228 in 1992 - compared with 11,150 employees in 1990.

US jobless claims up at 348,000 in last week

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - New applications for state unemployment benefits rose by 12,000 last week, the US Labor Department said yesterday, as 348,000 people signed up for benefits.

The total for the week ended April 9 was above Wall Street economists' forecast of 332,000 new filings, and showed continued weakness in the job market.

Seasonal factors accounted for the latest increase in initial jobless claims, economists said, because the data did not adjust for the fact that Easter occurred a week earlier this year than last.

"Seasonals contributed to the increase. It's not a sign that the labor market is deteriorating," said Michelle Colley Laughlin, economist at Sanwa Securities. "We may see a reversal of that increase next week."

The latest first-time jobless claims total of 348,000 compared with a revised 336,000 the prior week.

The closely watched four-week moving average, which is more indicative of economic trends than the more-volatile weekly figures, rose slightly to 338,750 in the week ended April 9, from a revised 338,000 in the prior week. The four-week average was 341,500 for the week ended March 26.

Meanwhile, retail sales barely rose last month and prices increased moderately as consumers stayed away from stores, two government reports released Wednesday showed.

The government said retail sales rose 0.4 percent in March after increasing by 1.4 percent the previous month. Consumer prices advanced 0.3 percent, the same as in February.

The news caught financial markets by surprise and initially soothed investor fears that the economy was overheating and that inflation and interest rates are headed higher. But the relief

proved short-lived, as analysts questioned the reliability of the retail sales data and saw reasons for worry about inflation in the consumer price report.

With car companies and retailers reporting strong sales for March, analysts were hard-pressed to explain the modest increase in overall retail sales reported by the government.

The government report showed auto dealers' sales up only 0.5 percent in March after a 2.6 percent rise in February. But car makers have reported separately that not only were March sales strong but the momentum carried over into April. New-car sales account for about one-fifth of total retail sales, so swings in demand strongly affect overall monthly figures.

Also puzzling was a drop in grocery and restaurant sales contained in the government report, analysts said. "I'm not sure if people stopped eating," joked David Wyss, senior economist at the Massachusetts-based consultants DRUM/Graw Hill.

Part of the explanation, he said, may be that people lived off the canned goods they had socked away in January and February when the weather turned harsh. That implies sales will bounce back in April, putting upward pressure on prices and pushing the Federal Reserve to increase interest rates.

Consumer price increases last month were broad-based. Food and clothing prices turned higher and transportation costs jumped, presumably because of higher air fares.

Energy costs, however, which jumped by 1.6 percent in February due to harsh winter weather, moderated in March and rose by 0.4 percent as home heating oil prices eased. Medical care costs rose 0.2 percent in March, the smallest increase in 10 years.

Bundesbank makes surprise cut in interest rates

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - The German Bundesbank yesterday surprised financial markets with a quarter-point cut in its leading interest rates.

After a meeting of its policy-making council, the central bank decided to cut its discount rate to 5% from 5.25% and its Lombard rate to 6.50% from 6.75%.

European stock markets and the dollar moved slightly higher on the news, but then fell back on a combination of nervousness over Wall Street's impending opening and fears over the consequences of Iraq downing two US helicopters.

Economists and dealers had only expected a symbolic cut in the bank's less important Lombard rate, and few had looked for a cut in the discount rate.

Bundesbank President Hans Tietmeyer told a news conference

after the council meeting that the decision was in line with the central bank's policy of small rate cuts.

Despite continued strong growth in M3 money supply, German inflation would fall to below 3% in the second half of the year, he said.

But Tietmeyer warned against cutting interest rates too quickly, saying: "Premature rate cuts would raise inflationary expectations."

Bundesbank deputy president Johann Wilhelm Gaddum said the central bank did not base its decision to cut both its leading interest rates on new M3 data.

"We have no new data on M3 which induced us to do this," he told Reuters ahead of the news conference.

In the run-up to this week's meeting of the central bank's poli-

cy-making council, some economists had expected that at least the Lombard rate would be trimmed, as a sign that the Bundesbank's policy of cautious easing was continuing.

The Bundesbank last cut its discount rate on February 18.

The Lombard rate, the ceiling for money market interest rates, and therefore less important at times of falling interest rates, has been at its current level since October 22.

The Bonn government welcomed the Bundesbank's decision to lower its rates and said the move would help fuel the country's fragile economic recovery.

German banking associations said moderate wage agreements this year had paved the way for continued cautious cuts in the central bank's leading interest rates.

Germany's Audi cuts its first quarter losses

MUNICH, Germany (Reuters) - German luxury car-maker Audi AG yesterday said its first quarter loss was cut by 100 million marks (\$58.23m.) and predicted it would break even in 1994 after recording its first loss in 18 years in 1993.

Audi's new managing board chairman Herbert Demel told a news conference that group sales rose by 2.3 percent in the first quarter, boosted by a strong upturn in European markets outside of Germany. Group sales had fallen 25% in 1993.

Although Audi declined to specify its first quarter losses, the company said the shortfall had been cut by about 100m. marks (\$58.23m.) from losses in the 1993 first quarter.

Audi, Volkswagen AG's up-market subsidiary, had a pre-tax loss of 198m. marks (\$115.3m.) in the 1993 first half and had a net loss of 89m. marks (\$51.82m.) for all of 1993, the group's first loss since 1975.

Defying industry analyst predictions, group first quarter sales rose to 2.94 billion marks (\$1.71b.) from 2.88b. (\$1.68b.) in the same period a year earlier. Demel said sales should rise by about 10% in 1994.

Demel said Audi was confident it would break even in 1994 because of aggressive cost-cutting.

Property czar Schneider suspected of fraud

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - German prosecutors said yesterday they had launched a legal investigation into fugitive German property magnate Juergen Schneider and his wife on suspicion of fraud.

Schneider has been missing since last Friday after he abruptly quit as head of one of Germany's largest property development groups, plunging the company into financial crisis.

A statement released by the prosecutor's office in Frankfurt said: "As of 14th April...an investigation has been started into property developer Dr. Juergen Schneider and his wife, triggered by a complaint from Deutsche Bank."

The news of the probe came just hours ahead of last-ditch talks between the remaining executives at Dr. Juergen Schneider AG and its creditor banks, aimed at preventing the firm from sliding into bankruptcy.

Schneider has total debts estimated at over 9 billion marks (\$5.24b.), of which 5b. marks (\$2.91b.) are believed to be with German commercial banks.

The prosecutor's office said the 59-year-old Schneider and his wife Claudia were suspected of fraud in connection with the Zeil-Galerie, a prestigious shopping center in Frankfurt.

The Zeil-Galerie is just one of around 80 high-profile Schneider

properties scattered throughout Germany.

Deutsche Bank, by far the Schneider group's largest creditor with loans estimated at 1.3b. marks (\$757m.), had lent 415m. marks (\$241.7m.) for the Zeil-Galerie.

Hans Eichel, premier of the state of Hesse, told journalists yesterday that he had been informed by Deutsche Bank's chief executive Hilmar Kopper that bank loans had been extended to Schneider on the basis of falsified rental contracts.

Banks had been led to believe that unrealistically high rents were possible on Schneider's property, he said. But the question had to be asked as to whether the banks should not have conducted their own market research, he added.

The Schneider group has been financially paralyzed since Schneider quit, saying he was ill.

Schneider alone held the purse strings of the company and the rest of the group's management have no access to funds to pay the workers and tradesmen at building sites around Germany.

With total debts estimated at over 9b. marks, the Schneider crisis is being compared with the near-collapse in January of Germany's 14th largest company, the metals and commodities trading group Metallgesellschaft AG.

MG survived only after a generous financial rescue package from German and international banks and the banks are again being called upon to limit the damage in the Schneider scandal.

WORLD BRIEFS

Soros sees no imminent danger: Billionaire investor George Soros said on Wednesday he sees no imminent danger that financial markets are on the verge of a crash, adding that markets are healthier today than they were at the end of 1993.

"I should like to emphasize that I see no imminent danger of a market crash or meltdown," Soros said in prepared remarks to the US House of Representatives Banking Committee.

Soros said that market conditions currently "are much healthier now than they were at the end of last year and I do not think that investors should be unduly fearful at this time."

He also rejected any suggestion that the investment activities of his Quantum Group of Funds "are harmful or destabilizing."

He did point out that his operations do use borrowed money "and we could cause trouble if we failed to meet a margin call. In our case, the risk is remote, but I cannot speak for all hedge funds."

Reuters

Japan says time nearly ripe for recovery: Japan's top policymakers said yesterday that the three-year recession was coming to an end and the time is nearly ripe for economic recovery.

"With personal consumption showing signs of improvement, time is steadily ripening for recovery, although our economic conditions remain severe," Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii told a meeting of trust banks.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno cautiously predicted an upturn for the weary economy at the same meeting.

The economy plunged into the doldrums again last year after earlier indications of bright prospects, Mieno said.

"However, since the turn of the (calendar) year, some indicators are pointing to improvement in economic activity, mostly in consumer spending, and the economy appears to be showing signs that it has halted its declines," he said.

Reuters

Bundesbank records record profit: The German Bundesbank said yesterday it had made a record profit of DM 18.83b. in 1993 and was transferring DM 18.26b. of this to the federal government.

The profit exceeded the bank's previous record earnings of DM 15.2b., reported for 1991. Last year, it reported a net profit of DM 72b. and transferred DM 13.09b. of this to the Bonn government.

The Bonn government has budgeted for a profit of DM 7b. Any sums the government receives which are above the budgeted amount are used to pay off old debt.

Reuters

Forte confident as profits grow: Britain's biggest hotel group, Forte Plc, said it was at its most optimistic for years yesterday, after underlying pre-tax profits for 1993/94 rose 23% to £87 million.

The company is cautious about the outlook for still-fragile consumer spending, but said corporate spending was growing as confidence returned.

"If our figures are at all typical, UK businessmen are clearly back on the move again," communication director Richard Power said in a telephone interview.

Turnover for the year to end-January grew seven percent to £1.58b.

The company said its debt, which cost it interest payments of £105m. against £128m. the year before, was "approaching more acceptable levels."

Reuters

Britain's trade deficit falls sharply: Britain had a visible trade deficit of £916 million in January, much smaller than December's £1.57b. gap, the Central Statistical Office said yesterday.

The deficit, excluding oil and erratic items like aircraft and gems, fell to £1.25b. from £1.80b.

The improvement in the overall deficit was entirely due to a dramatic drop in the deficit on trade with other European Union countries to 128 million pounds (\$188.7 million) in January from 903 million (\$133 billion) in December.

Reuters

AEG posts huge loss in 1993: AEG Daimler-Benz Industrie AG, Daimler-Benz's electrical engineering subsidiary, said yesterday it suffered huge losses in 1993, and forecast no return to profit until 1995.

AEG posted a DM 1.19 billion group net loss after a DM 10m. profit in 1992. Sales fell to DM 11.01b. from DM 11.59b. in 1992. The group's operating loss widened to DM 500m. from DM 200m. the year before.

Board Chairman Ernst Georg Stoeckl said the unit would narrow its operating loss in 1994 and return to profit in 1995.

"The turnaround in operating earnings is planned for 1995," Stoeckl told reporters at the annual news conference.

He said AEG set aside about DM 600m. last year to cover restructuring costs, a provision intended to cover all foreseeable company structural problems.

Reuters

Britain sets sale of state coal industry: The British government on Wednesday announced it would sell British Coal this year, setting the seal on the end of the state-owned coal industry.

"This is the next important stage in the transfer of British Coal's mining assets into the private sector," said Energy Minister Tim Eggar.

But labor unions and the opposition Labor Party fear it marks the further decline of a once great industry.

Under the government's privatization plans, seventeen working pits, employing 10,500 miners, are to be sold, split among five regional companies.

BSkyB pays out to owners: Satellite firm British Sky Broadcasting announced a £500 million refinancing on yesterday, confirming its transformation from financial market pariah to booming business. The deal will allow it to pay its shareholders, including Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation, some of the £1.6b. in debt financing they have sunk into the business.

News Corp., which has 50% of BSkyB, will receive £225m. in cash.

Reuters

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South African Economic Statistics

	Prices 1994	Prices 1993	% Change
Exchange rates:			
Commercial rand (buy)	3.602	3.479	-3.54%
Financial rand (buy)	5.335	4.913	-8.60%
Interest rates:			
Money market (BAS)	10.30%	10.35%	-0.48%
(Ry)*			
Escom 1994	10.25%	10.30%	-0.49%
Escom 2008	12.82%	12.73%	0.71%
UAL Max Income	13.71%	12.64%	8.47%
Prices: UTL			
OM Investors	R 34,9980		ERR
(buy) Guardbank	32,9752	32,6752	0.92%
UAL Gilt	12,2358	12,9929	-5.83%
Max Income	10,5478	10,8428	-2.72%
Shares: De Beers	103,00	103,00	0.00%
(close) Vaal Reef	402,00	434,00	-7.37%
Anglo American	204,00	202,00	0.99%
Barlows	29,50	28,25	4.42%
SA Brews	81,00	81,00	0.00%
Sasol	22,00	21,70	1.38%
Tiger Oats	43,50	45,15	-3.75%
Iscor	3,05	3,15	-3.17%
JSE Actuaries Overall	4,937	4,939	-0.05%

*RY - running yield.
COMMENTS: The move by foreign investors out of the Gilt market since early February turned into a stampede last week - and was a major factor behind the chaos in the financial market.
Notes: JSE statistics showed about R414m. was sold on the Gilt floor last week. The sell-off brings to more than R900m. the disinvestment from the capital market, since foreigners began turning tail.
Dealers said the figures helped explain the investment currency's collapse, as financial transactions frequently took place, after deals in the Gilt and equities markets. The outflow from last week's sell-off could still be in the financial market.

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ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (13.4.94)

Currency (deposit for):	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.250	3.425	3.425
Pound sterling (£100,000)	3.625	3.750	4.125
German mark (DM 200,000)	4.525	4.600	4.375
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	3.000	3.200	2.875
Yen (10 million yen)	0.825	0.750	1.000

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (13.4.94)

	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	Rep. Rate*
Currency basket	3.1890	3.2340			3.2128
U.S. dollar	3.0101		2.81		
German mark	1.7284	1.7388	1.70	3.05	2.8910
Pound sterling	2.9852		4.28	4.49	4.4128
French franc	0.523	0.534	0.48	0.52	0.5095
Japanese yen (100)	2.882	2.887	2.81	0.52	0.5095
Dutch florin	1.5414	1.5531	1.51	1.68	2.8906
Swiss franc	2.055	2.0642	2.02	2.11	2.4024
Swedish krona	0.270	0.2813	0.27	0.28	2.0892
Norwegian krona	0.2895	0.3051	0.29	0.31	0.3792
Denish krona	0.4417	0.4478	0.43	0.46	0.4651
Finland mark	0.5397	0.5483	0.53	0.55	0.5592
Canadian dollar	2.1571	2.1676	2.11	2.23	0.5433
Australian dollar	2.1418	2.1718	2.09	2.21	2.1741
S. African rand	0.8252	0.8273	0.74	0.84	2.1704
Belgian franc (10)	0.4408	0.4527	0.42	0.44	0.8220
Austrian schilling (10)	2.4581	2.4628	2.41		
Australian dollar	1.5141	1.5387	1.47	1.53	0.4705
Canadian dollar			4.35	1.0	1.8474
U.S. dollar				0.85	0.90
U.S. dollar	3.3514	3.3887			4.2173
U.S. dollar	4.2562	4.2855	4.14	4.40	3.3746
Japanese yen (100)	2.1385	2.1887	2.08	2.22	4.2701
					2.1333

Twenty-six die as US planes down American 'copters over Iraq

CHARLES ALDINGER
WASHINGTON

PENTAGON leaders yesterday took responsibility and promised full investigation of a friendly-fire blunder in which US jets shot down two American helicopters over northern Iraq, killing an estimated 26 US and allied personnel.

Defense Secretary William Perry and General John Shalikashvili, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said they had no immediate explanation for the episode in which two F-15C fighters guarding a "no-fly zone" to protect Iraqi Kurds mistook two US Army UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters for Iraqi aircraft and blasted them with missiles.

President Clinton quickly made a televised appearance to express his sorrow over the US government - and briefly sent jitters of speculation on possible US military retaliation through Washington when initial reports mistakenly blamed the attack on the Iraqis. The Pentagon later said the initial death-toll estimate was 26, al-

though that could change once reports came in from search-and-rescue teams sent to the remote mountainous site.

Comments from allied officials confirmed that at least three Turks, two Britons and a Frenchman were among the dead. Those three nations and the United States formed a task force to protect Iraq's northern Kurdish minority from attack by President Saddam Hussein's forces after the 1991 Gulf War.

Perry and Shalikashvili said the US jets made visual sightings of the helicopters before the shooting and a US Airborne Control and Warning (AWACS) aircraft - which has the electronic equipment to sort out friendly from hostile forces over a wide area - watched over the incident.

"Clearly, something went wrong. An investigation will have to determine exactly what did go wrong," Shalikashvili said. Perry. (Reuters)

Alleged serial killer charged with first wife's murder

GLOUCESTER, England (AP) - Police yesterday charged alleged serial killer Frederick West with the murder of his first wife.

The 52-year-old house builder is already charged with killing nine women from 1973 to 1987, including his 16-year-old daughter, Heather. Their remains were exhumed from West's house and garden in Gloucester, 120 kilometers west of London.

Police said yesterday's charge was in connection with bones found over the weekend in a field

in Kempley, 16 kilometers south of Gloucester.

The field is about a mile from the village of Much Marcle. West's boyhood home. He and his first wife, Catherine Costello, began their married life there. She had not been seen by relatives since the 1970s when it was thought she had moved to Scotland.

West's current wife has said she has no knowledge of the killings. She has been questioned but not charged.

With deep sorrow we announce that
R.J. (Rudi) FRIEDMANN
has passed away.

The funeral is taking place today in London.

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The unveiling of the tombstone for our beloved
HARRY EIDELMAN
will take place on Sunday, April 17, 1994,
at 3:30 p.m., at the new Ra'anana cemetery.

The Family

With great sorrow we announce the death of
CECILIA (Sally) ZIMMERMAN

The funeral will take place on Friday, April 15, at 12 noon,
at the Side Yehoshua Cemetery (Kfar Saniar) Haifa (Gate No. 1).
Leon and Leola Zimmerman and Family
Tev and Ava Zimmerman and Family

The Israel Museum, Jerusalem
deeply mourns the passing of
MARIANNA GRIESSMANN

She was a dear friend, generous benefactor,
and a true woman of valor.
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Waiter and the family.

Teddy Kollek, Chairman of the Board
Martin Weyl, Director

In deep sorrow we announce the passing in Haifa
of our beloved
VICK FRANCO

mourned by her sister Dr. Olga Bensoam
Dr. Jules Barbour (London) and Family
Mrs. Adele Matalon
For funeral arrangements: Tel. 04-382143

The Board of Directors and the Staff of the Mandel Institute
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Sue Fox (Mogliner)
upon the passing of her father

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Annette Hochstein, Director

Belgium announces pullout of troops from Rwanda

ANGUS SHAW
KIGALI, Rwanda

THE airport outside Kigali was shelled yesterday as this nation slid ever deeper into anarchy and mayhem. Belgium announced it was pulling its troops out of the UN mission in Rwanda, threatening the entire multinational operation.

Mortars rained down on streets already bathed in blood in the capital of Kigali as government forces battled the rebel Rwandan Patriotic Front for control of the city. The rebels again rejected UN efforts to broker a ceasefire.

The sickly smell of decaying flesh hung over the green hills of the city, its streets full of rotting corpses. Marauding gangs of men and youths hacked thousands to

death with machetes, knives and spears.

"More and more of the civilian population armed with machetes are ruling the streets and the army can't control them," said Philippe Gaillard of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The airport, through which thousands of foreigners have fled on evacuation flights in the past few days, was hit by at least six rockets. One exploded only about 50 meters from an Italian military C-130 that was taking off with another load of evacuees. There were no injuries.

Thousands have already died in a week-long orgy of violence between the country's majority Hu-

tus and minority Tutsis that has left Kigali in a state of utter anarchy. Nobody knows the exact number, but estimates range beyond 20,000.

"Everyone is fighting here," said Gaillard, the head of the Red Cross in Kigali. "The people are fighting against their own brothers, and this is very sad."

Gaillard said he saw 15 victims of machete attacks outside a religious school in the western suburbs yesterday morning. Most were dead, he said, "but some were still moving."

Red Cross teams were trying to recover those still alive.

After a relatively quiet night, the fighting resumed at daybreak yesterday with sporadic but sometimes heavy shelling. Government artillery near the city's center shelled a nearby mist-shrouded valley. The rebels answered with mortar rounds that exploded downtown.

From a hotel near the heart of Kigali, reporters could see only government soldiers and roving gangs of looters on the streets. More than 100,000 residents and foreigners already have fled, including members of the provisional government.

Dawn unveiled the sight of fresh

corpses on streets near the hotel. Reporters had heard screams in the night as people were hacked down by bands of youths and men with machetes, knives and spears.

Belgium governed Rwanda as a protectorate from 1916 until it won independence in 1962, and many Rwandans hold a special animosity toward those they see as former colonial masters.

Belgium's 420 paratroopers have been the backbone of the 2,500 man UN force, and Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said their withdrawal would doom the entire peacekeeping effort in the tiny Central African nation. (AP)

South Africa mediation efforts collapse

JOHANNESBURG (AP) - Foreign mediation of South Africa's deep-rooted political dispute collapsed before it started yesterday over a demand by Zulu nationalists for the nation's first all-race election to be postponed.

Former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger announced the seven-member team he was leading would go home without launching their bid to resolve the conflict threatening the April 26-28 vote.

"The fact that it has failed fills me with sadness," said former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington, another mediator.

Further talks between President F.W. de Klerk's government, the African National Congress and the Zulu nationalist Inkatha Freedom Party are possible, but the failure of the groups to agree on guidelines for the mediation indicated little chance for a substantive accord.

With less than two weeks until the election, the ANC, fighting between supporters of the ANC and the Zulu group is certain to escalate, especially in the traditional Zulu homeland in Natal Province.

Some 200 blacks have been killed in Natal - the main battleground of the ANC-Inkatha rivalry - in the two weeks since de

Klerk declared a state of emergency in the region.

The mediation agreed to earlier this year by ANC leader Nelson Mandela and Inkatha leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi was seen as the best hope of solving their impasse, but problems emerged shortly after Kissinger and other mediators arrived Tuesday night.

"We urged the parties to bridge the gaps and we met with the parties individually," said Kissinger, who won the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating the US-Vietnam peace treaty. "However... the terms could not be bridged."

Carrington said the mediators came to South Africa thinking the ANC and Inkatha had already agreed on guidelines for the mediation. Upon arrival, they learned of the continuing dispute over Buthelezi's demand for the election to be postponed.

Guidelines agreed to Sunday by the two parties lacked any mention of the election date issue. But revised guidelines offered by the government and ANC, and rejected by Inkatha, specifically said the election date was not subject to mediation.

Each side blamed the other for the collapse, continuing a history of finger-pointing that has stalled countless efforts to reach a political solution.

Bosnian Serbs detain another 18 peacekeepers; now holding 155

SARAJEVO (AP) - Furious at being targeted by NATO warplanes, Bosnian Serbs struck back yesterday by detaining 18 more UN peacekeepers. At least 155 peacekeepers are now under Serb guard.

In another tense situation, a Serb tank challenged French peacekeepers guarding an arms depot of heavy weapons collected from the exclusion zone around Sarajevo. But UN spokesman Maj. Rob Annink said the tank withdrew without incident yesterday after about 30 minutes.

Serbs were also restricting the movement of an unspecified number of UN civilians in Bosnia, Annink said.

The latest detentions occurred at dawn Thursday at Ciftik, northeast of Sarajevo, he said. Fourteen armed Canadian soldiers and four unarmed UN monitors were apparently taken to Serb-held Iliaz northwest of Sarajevo.

The Canadians had been guarding seven Serb mortars and two anti-aircraft guns within the 20-kilometer zone for heavy weapons around the Bosnian capital. That zone was set up by a UN resolution threatening NATO air strikes against any heavy weapons within the zone.

that were not under UN control.

Two weeks of relentless Serb assaults on the Muslim enclave of Gorazde, 55 kilometers southeast of Sarajevo, provoked NATO air strikes Sunday and Monday. Following the NATO attacks, the Serbs suspended peace talks with the United Nations and threatened to shoot down NATO planes.

Although fighting around Gorazde has ebbed since Monday's raid, the Serbs have retaliated in

other ways, blocking aid convoys trying to negotiate Serb-held territory and restricting the movement of UN personnel.

The Serbs also continued to hold 11 French relief workers detained in their barracks outside Sarajevo since the weekend.

In Sarajevo, relief flights have been suspended since Sunday. Donor countries appear reluctant to risk flights because of fears of Serb attacks.

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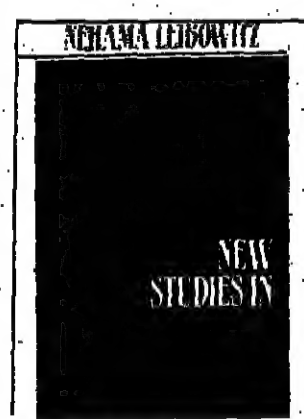
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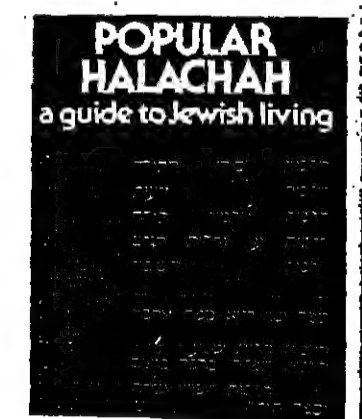
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First Jewish school in 25 years to open in Poland

WARSAW (AP) - Patiently lining up for a photograph then bursting into a wild pillow fight, some 20 children celebrated the establishment Wednesday of Poland's first Jewish elementary school in more than 25 years.

In September, these six- and seven-year-old Polish and American Jews will attend their first classes at the Lauder-Morasha School, next to Warsaw's only synagogue.

The program will include classes in Hebrew, Jewish tradition and culture, and English, as well as the Polish primary school curriculum.

"To rekindle Jewish tradition and Jewish life in eastern Europe, especially here in Poland, was my dream," American businessman Ronald S. Lauder said in a statement read at the ceremony in the school gym. His Lauder Foundation sponsored the initiative.

Polish government officials and representatives from the US, Canadian and Israeli embassies were

present at the ceremony.

Rabbi Michael J. Schudrich of the foundation said the occasion was a milestone for the roughly 5,000-strong Jewish community in Poland. More than three million Jews lived in Poland before World War II and most died in the Holocaust.

"We no longer speak of it there is a future for us here, but of what it will be like," said Schudrich. "It is in our hands."

The school director, Helise E. Lieberman, said it would begin with the two youngest classes and develop as more children enroll.

She could not specify the initial number of pupils, as recruitment is still going on. She hopes, with time, that a Jewish high school can open.

The last Jewish school in Poland was closed in 1968 by the order of the country's Communist rulers during a purge of high-ranking Jews. That ended a centuries-old tradition of Jewish education.

Billy Joel splits with supermodel wife

NEW YORK (AP) - Billy Joel and Christie Brinkley are separating after nine years of marriage. CNN reported Wednesday.

The supermodel and her singer-songwriter husband sent a joint statement to Mitchell Fink, a People magazine columnist who contributes to CNN's Show Biz Today segment.

Further details were not immediately available. Calls from The Associated Press to their representatives late Wednesday were not returned.

The couple has an eight-year-old daughter, Alexa Ray.

Brinkley, 40, survived a serious helicopter crash earlier this month,

while "heliskiffing" with friends near Telluride, Colo. Joel, 44, postponed a concert in Kansas City the next night to accompany his wife back to their Long Island oceanfront estate, outside New York City.

People magazine featured Brinkley on the cover of their April 13 edition. She said the April 1 accident gave her a deeper appreciation of her family.

"Maybe I'll have the patience to be a better mom," she told the magazine. "Maybe I will simplify my life, because at the moment everything is so sweet to me."

The couple wed March 23, 1985, on a yacht in New York harbor.

Furor over Holocaust ad in school newspaper

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) - A wealthy benefactor threatened to withdraw his \$2 million donation to the University of Miami after the school newspaper ran an advertisement questioning the Holocaust.

About 400 students tore up copies of Tuesday's paper at a campus protest, and Jewish leaders in Miami criticized University President Edward "Ted" Foote for allowing the ad to appear in The Miami Hurricane.

Foote said the free speech rights of the student editors outweighed his reservations about the ad.

At a university, he said, "if we err, we should err on the side of freedom of thought."

"It's a bad decision," said eyewitness tycoon Sanford Ziff, who had planned to give \$2 million to an art gallery and a cancer research center at the school.

"The donation is on hold and whether or not it will ever happen is in question. There would have to be a reconsideration, an apology. Tad Foote should reconsider his priorities," Ziff said.

The ad was placed by California writer Bradley R. Smith under the headline "A Revisionist Challenge to the US Holocaust Memorial Museum."

It contends the museum in Washington offers no proof of genocide through the use of gas chambers.

The ad has run in about 25 student newspapers at colleges around the country.

Julio Fernandez, the Hurricane's business manager, said, "A responsible newspaper lets the readers know the different points of view. Now they know there are people like Mr. Smith out there."

Fernandez said the \$288 cost of the ad would be donated to the Holocaust Museum.

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ENGLISH SECRETARY, basic Hebrew, experience. 8:30-16:00 6 days. Tel. 03-843266.

COMPUTER typist/clerk, English mother-tongue, for general office work, full-time 9:00-18:00. Tel. 03-6244054 (Mldn).

ENGLISH SECRETARY, English mother-tongue + word processing. Tel. 03-294525, 03-5260283.

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Hall of Fame inductee denies antisemitic remark

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — US National Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Steve Carlton has denied comments attributed to him in a magazine article that drew the ire of the American Jewish Congress.

"The article has almost no truth in it," Carlton said.

He said there were too many errors to correct individually, "but let me say that I specifically deny saying anything that could be interpreted as offensive to Jewish people. I stand on my long record of treating all teammates and op-

ponents with the same respect, be they Jewish, black or white."

Carlton, the only four-time Cy Young Award winner as the season's best pitcher, was quoted in an article published in *Philadelphia Magazine* as saying the "Elders of Zion," 12 Jewish bankers in Switzerland, rule the world.

That led the AJC in New York to ask that Carlton be barred from induction into the Hall of Fame until he apologizes. Carlton is scheduled to enter the Baseball hall of fame in Cooperstown, New

York, on July 31.

"I never said that," Carlton said referring to the Elders of Zion quote. "There are a lot of things in the article I did not say. Generally speaking, the article is incredibly out of context. To anyone who is obviously offended, I didn't write the article and didn't have control over it."

"But, if I have offended anybody, I want to apologize."

The magazine and writer Pat Jordan defended the story as accurate.

IDF beats Israel's star soccer players

ORI LEWIS

THE IDF's soccer side scored an upset 2-1 win over the national side in an Independence Day friendly match played at Kiryat Shmona yesterday.

The match, which pitted Israel's best players still serving in the IDF and most of the stars of the national team, revived an old tradition which was a regular fixture on Independence Day until about ten years ago.

But in an upset of formbook, the lesser squad came out on top to win the OC Northern Command Trophy in front of 2,000 spectators who came out to the Kiryat Shmona Municipal Stadium for an afternoon of fun.

Shai Holtzman of Maccabi Haifa put the IDF side ahead from the penalty spot in the 39th minute.

Itzik Zohar of Maccabi Tel Aviv replied with an equalizer in the 51st. Ten minutes later, Azik Benadon scored the winner.

Western National League soccer fixtures: Maccabi Haifa vs. Maccabi Netanya; Maccabi Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Be'er Sheva; Hapoel Tel Aviv vs. Hapoel Ashdod; Hapoel Petah Tikva vs. Maccabi Haifa; Hapoel Be'er Sheva vs. Hapoel Ashdod.

Who am I?

I am the first AL Rookie of the Year to subsequently win a batting title.

I played for Detroit until I was traded to Cleveland for Rocky Colangelo.

I finished my career as the all-time home run leader in the American League.

Answer in Sunday's edition.

Wednesday's answer: Mel Ott.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

Atherton leads England to victory

Mike Atherton proved yet again that character is the crucial ingredient in sporting success by leading England to an improbable and important victory on Wednesday.

Before 6,000 delirious English fans, Atherton guided England to a 208-run win over unofficial world champions West Indies in the fourth Test, the home team's first loss at Kensington Oval since 1935.

Johnson undecided on coaching career

Magic Johnson plans to decide this week whether he will return as coach of the Los Angeles Lakers next season. But, he added, "it might take longer."

Johnson, quoted in Tuesday's *Los Angeles Times*, said he was leaning to not coming back because the constant travel of the NBA had placed too many demands on him.

SCOREBOARD

NBA - Wednesday's results: Boston 109, Detroit 96; Indiana 115, Philadelphia 87; Chicago 96, Miami 98; Atlanta 110, Cleveland 95; New Jersey 107, Milwaukee 105; Denver 83, San Antonio 78; Phoenix 117, LA Lakers 88.

Tuesday's results: Cleveland 119, Milwaukee 91; Philadelphia 134, Detroit 107; Chicago 111, New Jersey 105; Houston 96, Minnesota 89; Phoenix 107, Denver 102; Utah 126, Sacramento 91; Seattle 116, LA Clippers 101; Golden State 128, LA Lakers 117; Dallas 108, Portland 107.

NHL - Wednesday's results: Boston 5, Ottawa 6; NY Islanders 2, Tampa Bay 8; Detroit 6, Montreal 6; Edmonton 2, San Jose 3; Los Angeles 6, Calgary 4; Vancouver 2, Anaheim 1.

Tuesday's results: NY Rangers 3, Buffalo 2; Philadelphia 4, New Jersey 2; Washington 4, Winnipeg 3; Quebec 8, Florida 2; Chicago 4, Toronto 3; Dallas 9, St. Louis 5.

BASEBALL - Wednesday's AL results: Detroit 6, Baltimore 6; Minnesota 9, Seattle 6; Chicago 5, New York 6; Kansas City 2, Boston 1; Texas 4, Milwaukee 3 (10); Cleveland 6, California 5 (10); Oakland 8, Toronto 7 (12).

Wednesday's NL results: Chicago at New York (ppd., rain); Houston 4, Florida 2; Montreal 3, Cincinnati 1; Pittsburgh 3, San Diego 2; Atlanta 6, San Francisco 3 (12); St. Louis 4, Los Angeles 2; Philadelphia 12, Colorado 3.

Tuesday's AL results: Chicago 16, New York 5; Boston 22, Kansas City 11; Cleveland 5, California 4; Oakland 8, Toronto 4; Seattle 12, Minnesota 8.

Tuesday's NL results: Houston 7, Florida 3; Cincinnati 7, Montreal 1; Pittsburgh 4, San Diego 2; San Francisco 7, Atlanta 3; Los Angeles 7, St. Louis 3.

BRITISH SOCCER - Wednesday's results: English Football Association Cup, semifinal replay: Manchester United 4, Chelsea 1. Premier League: Queens Park Rangers 1, Chelsea 1. Division One: Stoke 3, Peterborough 1; Division Two: Bradford 6, Falkirk 6; Scottish Cup, semifinal replay: Rangers 2, Kilmarnock 1.

Tuesday's results: Division One: Barnsley 6, Watford 1; Bolton 6, Southend 2; Grimsby 0, Brentford 1; Luton 0, Wolves 2; Notts County 6, Tranmere 0; Oxford United 1, West Bromwich Albion 1. Division Two: Barnsley 6, Bradford 6; Falkirk 6, Stirling Albion 3; Wrexham 0, Port Vale 2; Northampton 1, Swans 1; Stockport 2, Division Three: Gillingham 2, Preston 2; Rochdale 1, Shrewsbury 2; Scottish Cup, semifinal replay: Aberdeen 6, Dundee United 1.

EUROPEAN SOCCER - Wednesday's results: Champions' League: Group A: Monaco (France) 0, Barcelona (Spain) 1; Galatasaray (Turkey) 1, Spartak Moscow (Russia) 2. Group B: Anderlecht (Belgium) 1, Werder Bremen (Germany) 2; Porto (Portugal) 0, Milan (Italy) 0. Cup Winners' Cup, semifinal, second leg: Parma (Italy) 1, Benfica (Portugal) 0.

UEFA Cup - Tuesday's results: Karlsruhe 1, Salzburg 1; Inter Milan 3, Cagliari 0.

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Due to an oversight, the Art Poster listings for next week appear on this page instead of Timeout.

Jerusalem

BACK TO THE SHITEL - finds and photographs from the An-Sky Jewish ethnographic expedition, 1912-14, on loan from St. Petersburg. AL MANSFELD - private and public structures and virtuoso drawings by veteran architect. MAZALTOV - five motifs in illuminated marriage contracts. TO LIVE IN JERUSALEM - delightful historic cultural-ethnographic architectural show (till April 17). LWE LOESCH - posters. MIRIT COHEN (1945-90) - retrospective (Israel Museum).

YAIRO TORCHIN - "Chairs," IT-SHAK DE LANGE - "Rafts and Bridges," ASHER DAHAN - paintings. Till May (Jerusalem Artists House). 12 Shmuel Hanagel.

JOSEPH SALAMON - sculptures and drawings by Hungarian-Israeli from Denmark. Till May 7. (Nora Gallery, 9 Ben-Minor Tel: 525283).

LOCAL GODESSES - ancient deities and contemporary types (Tower of David City Museum, Jaffa Gate).

MARLI SHAMIR - photographs of Paris. From April 18. (Jerusalem Theater).

Tel Aviv area

MIZNE-BLUMENTAL COLLECTION - 20th-century modern masters: CONTEMPORARY ART & PHOTOGRAPHY - from the Museum collection. FERNAND LEGER - Selected works from a private collection. ROBERT MAPPLETHORPE - Photographs. TEL AVIV - A TEMPORARY DOCUMENTATION - Culture and photography. (Tel Aviv Museum, 27 Shaul Hamelech St. Tel: 6961297).

CHANAN DE LANGE - Autobiographical design. (Helena Rubinstein Pavilion for Contemporary Art, 6 Tarsat. Tel: 5257130).

WARM KITCHEN - 18 artists, 18 walls. Till end May. (Konforti Gallery, 66 Sderot Yerushalayim, Jaffa. Tel: 624542).

25 YEARS OF JEWELRY DESIGN - 66 participants. Till Apr. 15. (Oppenheimer Diamond Museum, 1 Jabotinsky, Ramat Gan. Tel: 5760219).

NOAM RABINOWITZ - Sculptures. Till Apr. 19. (Yad Labanim, 30 Arlosoroff, Petah Tikva. Tel: 9233450).

WJANDA DERRO - "Forgotten Spaces." Photos of Ellis Island. (Beth Hatefutsoth, Tel Aviv University. Ramat Aviv. Tel: 6462020).

INTERNATIONAL STYLE - Buildings in Tel Aviv 1930-1939; photographs by IRMEL KAMP-BANDAU. (Gema Schreiber Gallery, Tel Aviv University).

YAIR AVIDAR, AVNER BEN GAL, DUDI BRALOVSKY - Sculptures and installation. (Museum of Israeli Art, 146 Abba Hillel, Ramat Gan. Tel: 7521876).

REUVEN RUBIN - From the collection. Till end Apr. (Bet Rubin, 14 Bialik St. Tel: 5178961).

SHALOM FLASH - Urban landscapes. Till Apr. 30. (Herzliya Museum of Art, Yad Labanim, Wolfson. Tel: 09-510111).

NATI SHAMIA-OPHER - Portfolio. (Bogrovsky Gallery, 60 Bogrovsky).

YADID RUBIN - "Hatzofeh," paintings. Till Apr. 23. (Chelouche Gallery, 3 Chassid, Tel: 5259713).

MOSHE SHEK - Ceramic sculptures. (Eretz Yisrael Museum, Ramat Aviv).

ZAHARA RUBIN - Bronze figures. Till Apr. 15. (Engel Gallery, 26 Gordon St. Tel: 5225637).

MICHAEL SGAN COHEN, AMI LEVI, KOKI DOKTORI - Three-person show: (Museum of Israeli Art, 146 Abba Hillel, Ramat Gan. Tel: 7521876).

Haifa/north

YAACOV CREPETH - installations. DANIELA SHEINMAN - paintings. CHAIM WEIZMANN - political cartoon.

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DORON YAHALOM - Conceptual works. Till Apr. 30. (Tel Aviv Artists' Studio, 18 Eliezer, Tel: 6830505).

RAYA REDLICH - "Cassandra," sculpture. Till Apr. 23. (Constant Gallery, 42 Snadar, Ramat Gan. Tel: 5743381).

THE ONGOING SHADOW - Remembering the Holocaust. Till Apr. 21. (Artists' Pavilion, 9 Alharizi, Tel: 5246683).

MIRA HERMONT LEVIN - Recent paintings. Till Apr. 25. (Tova Osman Gallery, 100 Ben-Yehuda. Tel: 527687).

HADASSA RAVITSKY - Black-and-white drawings. Till Apr. 16. (Amalia Arbel Gallery, 3 Sha'ar Zion).

SIONA SHIMSHI - Sculptures and drawings. Till May 4. (Julie M. Gallery, 7 Gilson. Tel: 295473).

ANAT TSACHUR - "The Observer and the Witness." (Arnat Gallery, 8 Alick, Jaffa. Tel: 812111).

YARIV VALDI - Ceramic figures. Till Apr. 30. (Gallery Chelouche, 30 Chelouche Neveh Tzedek. Tel: 5106067).

GERSHON APPEL, SHMUEL LEITNER - Holocaust art. Till Apr. 23. (ZOA House, 1 Daniel Frisch).

ILANA BAR, DORIT FIGOVITCH, GODARD - Recent works. Till Apr. 28. (Center for Art Education, 28 Yefet, Jaffa. Tel: 680247).

RONIT GUR, NAOMI SHALEV, YOSHI VALDI, DANNY TERMER - Theme group show. Till May 7. (Kfar Sara Municipal Gallery, 12 Geula. Tel: 09-915649).

DORIT YACOBY - Works. Till May 6. (Sara Levi Gallery, 10 Pineles. Tel: 6050302).

MEIR NATIF - Recent works. Till Apr. 25. (Arsuf Gallery, Moshav Rishon. Tel: 09-507118).

RON TAYAN - "Breathing Room," interiors. Till May 30. (Office T.A.I. Shlomo Hamelech. Tel: 5254191, call for hours).

LEA SILBERSTEIN - Bronze sculptures. Till Apr. 17. (Shai Danon Gallery, 42 Frug. Tel: 5228814).

AKIVA WASSERMAN - Paintings. Till Apr. 30. (Kibbutz House, 13 Leonard de Vinci).

SHIMON AVNY - Installation. "Green Box." Till Apr. 29. (Sara Levi Gallery, 58 Ben Yehuda. Tel: 528134).

ZVI TADMOR - Paintings. Till Apr. 27. (Rosenfeld Gallery, 147 Dizengoff. Tel: 5290044).

URI STETTER - Paintings. Till May 17. (Smilansky Cultural Center, 13 Habanim, Rehovot. Tel: 08-492239).

DAVID GABRIELI - Iron sculptures. Till May 5. (Sharon Gallery, 18 Hayarden, Givatayim. Tel: 5711032).

MODI ELIAS - Mixed-media works. Till May 2. (Nams Arts, 21 Gordon. Tel: 528956).

MIRIAM CAESSA - Paintings. Till May 14. (Dvir Gallery, 11 Nachum. Tel: 5444893).

ALAN DAVIE - Works on paper. Till Apr. 29. (Bineth Gallery, 15 Frishman. Tel: 5240852).

TIPORA ROSENBLUM - "Viewpoints." Till Apr. 29. (Artists' Pavilion, 9 Alharizi. Tel: 5246685).

South

WHEN GRANDMA AND GRANDPA WERE CHILDREN - show on loan from Israel Museum. (Israel Museum, 82 Ben Yair. Tel: 07-98283).

ARTISTS IN PAPER - Group homage to the late Joyce Schmidt, artist and pioneer papermaker. Till mid-May. (Gallery in Old Turkish Railway Building, Tuvia Boulevard, Beersheba).

MARTA DAVNI - large oil paintings. (Joe Alan Center, Museum of Be'duin Culture, near Kibbutz Lahav. Tel: 913322).

GROUP SHOW - by the five artists who exhibited at opening of the Ashdod Museum in 1965. Till April 17. (Ashdod Museum, Keren Hayesod 17, Ashdod. Tel: 543921).

MORDECAI ARDON - selection of prints: AVRAHAM BORENSTEIN - maquettes for sculptures. (Museum of the Negev, Ha'atzmaut, Beersheba. Tel: 234338).

Jerusalem area

Meir Ronnen, The Jerusalem Post
POB 81, Jerusalem 91000
Tel Aviv/Sharon area
Gili Goldfine, The Jerusalem Post
POB 2016, Tel Aviv 6101
Haifa/north and Beersheba/north
Angela Levine, POB 3149, Herzliya 46104

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toons. (Haifa Museum of Modern Art, 26 Shabtai Levi St. Tel: 523255).

FIRST PERSON UNKNOWN - group show. Till Apr. 23. (Janco Dada Museum, Ein Hod).

YOHANAN BEN YAACOV - painted sculptures and paintings (Beit Gavriel, Zemar).

YUVAL DANIELI - Between the window and reality. Works from 1972-93. Beit Nechustan, Kibbutz Ashdot Ya'acov. Tel: 757737.

THE ART IN WASTE - PHILIP RANZER; MIKE LEAF. Till May 28. (Wilfrid Israel Museum, Kibbutz Hazorea. Tel: 899566).

SHIMON HAMEERI - Holograms. Till May 30. (Museum Hasharon, Midreshet Rupin. Tel: 688644).

GROUP SHOW - independent group of painters and sculptors. Till April 26. (Gallery of Beit Hagafen, 2 Gefen, Haifa).

YOSEF WISHNIA - works. (Bar-David Museum, Kibbutz Bar-Am. Tel: 938295).

THE STUDIO OF THE ARTIST - group show. (Art Gallery, Ein Hod Artists Village. Tel: 642548).

YEHOSHUA GROSSBARD - early and late paintings. Till May 16. (Art Gallery, Central Library, Kiryat Tivon. Tel: 635506).

YOSEF CHILPIN - painting retrospective: SINIA HELEN - oils. Till April 28. (Artists House, Haifa. Tel: 523355).

EVERYTHING STREAMS - group show in connection with Year of the Environment. Till May 17. (Arad Museum, 28 Ben Yair, Arad. Tel: 957747).

When GRANDMA AND GRANDPA WERE CHILDREN - show on loan from Israel Museum. (Israel Museum, 82 Ben Yair. Tel: 07-98283).

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8.00 European Cup Winners' Cup soccer semifinal: Arsenal v Paris St. Germain 10.40 Table tennis 11.40 Brazilian soccer 12.40 Argentinean league soccer 13.40 Spanish league soccer 15.10 WWF 16.10 Bushido 17.00 World Cup soccer magazine 17.30 Everest Marathon 18.30 Mount Everest 19.30 World Handball 20.30 NHL 21.15 Boxing 22.00 Highlights: Man Utd v Oldham 23.00 World rugby magazine 23.30 European soccer magazine

EUROSPORT

9.30 Aerobics 10.00 Motor racing 11.00 Horse racing 12.00 ATP tennis 12.30 European soccer 14.00 Formula 1 motor racing 15.30 NBA basketball 17.00 NBA daily 17.30 World rugby magazine 18.00 Five Nations rugby, England v Wales 18.40 NHL 19.30 World Cup soccer magazine 20.00 WWF 21.00 International championships from Haifa 22.00 Cheerleading championships 23.00 Bushido 00.00 Handball

TOMORROW

CHANNEL 5

8.30 Spanish league soccer 11.00 World Cup soccer magazine 11.30 European soccer magazine 13.30 Gymnastics special 15.30 NBA basketball 17.00 NBA daily 17.30 World rugby magazine 18.00 Five Nations rugby, England v Wales 18.40 NHL 19.30 World Cup soccer magazine 20.00 WWF 21.00 International championships from Haifa 22.00 Cheerleading championships 23.00 Bushido 00.00 Handball

EUROSPORT

9.30 Aerobics 10.00 Formula 1 11.00 International motor racing magazine 12.00 Motorcycling magazine 12.30 Motor racing 13.30 Boxing magazine 14.00 Formula 1 15.00 Horse racing 17.00 Live athletics from Greece 18.00 Dance 19.00 Horse racing 20.00 Golf 21.00 Formula 1 from Japan 22.00 Motor racing from California 22.30 WWF Wrestling from Tunisia 23.00 Live boxing 1.00 Wrestling 2.00 Live formula 1 from Japan 2.30 Leisure sports

PRIME SPORTS

8.00 European soccer show 7.00 WWF 8.00 Live cricket: Australia v New Zealand 15.30 international sports magazine 17.00 ATP tennis roundup 18.00 international motor racing magazine 19.00 Cricket: Australia v New Zealand 20.00 NBA behind the

Delegation leaves today for first official visit to Oman

A DELEGATION is scheduled to leave for Oman today, the first official visit by Israelis to a Gulf state. The group, led by Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin, is participating in the multilateral talks on water at Muscat, the Omani capital.

During a preliminary one-day visit made by Foreign Ministry representatives earlier this week to finalize the details, it was agreed that a limited number of journalists would be allowed to accompany the delegation.

The idea for regular talks on specific subjects - water, environment, arms, economic development, and refugees - was born at

LIAT COLLINS

the first multilateral meeting in Moscow in 1992, and the meetings have taken place every five or six months since then.

The decision to hold the current round of talks, the fifth, in Oman was taken during the last round in Beijing in October. Other multilateral groups are expected to meet in the Gulf states in the near future, with Qatar scheduled to host the arms talks and Bahrain the environment talks.

The delegation is chaired by former Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz and includes Water Commissioner Gideon Tsur, ex-

perts from the Hydrological Institute, other water specialists, a representative of the government coordinator in the territories, and Foreign Ministry officials.

The talks are expected to focus on the establishment of a regional data bank; details of a carrying out a hydrological survey; training personnel to deal with water; and a joint Austrian-Tunisian-Israeli effort in arid land irrigation.

Israel is expected to raise the subject of solar energy-powered water purification, and a project for sewage purification and reuse is expected to be discussed in a joint effort with the environment multilateral work groups.

Protestors defy orders, march to Netzarim

LIAT COLLINS

ABOUT A thousand people marched to the Jewish settlement of Netzarim in central Gaza yesterday, despite Wednesday's unsuccessful High Court petition to rescind a military ban issued "for security reasons."

The Netzarim supporters were a break-away group from a larger crowd of several thousand who held a walk and meeting at Neveh Dekalim in Gush Katif with the army's permission.

At Wednesday's High Court hearing, march organizers and IDF officers in the area decided to compromise on the Gush Katif venue, after the army decided that Netzarim would be too hard to safeguard.

Gaza Jewish Communities Council officials petitioned the High Court after the local division commander retracted the permit he had granted for the walk.

Jewish residents in the area specifically planned the march to Netzarim to show support for the most isolated of Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip, whose evacuation is most frequently discussed, ac-

cording to council spokeswoman Datia Hershkovitz.

The idea of carrying out the march at two sites, one against the military ruling, was apparently planned in advance of the parade. Netzarim supporters met the buses carrying the marchers while they were still within the Green Line and took about 1,000 people to the settlement. When the IDF realized what was happening, it immediately diverted forces to ensure the safety of the breakaway group.

The marchers - mostly religious families with young children and youths from religious or right-wing groups - left the buses about six kilometers from Netzarim and started to walk claiming that the IDF and court had not forbidden visits to the settlement.

The IDF tried to prevent the families from entering, claiming that the area had been proclaimed a closed military area. Most of the marchers ignored the soldiers but, according to Army Radio, a few argued with them. After a few hours they left by bus for the Nahal Oz checkpoint. The legal march in Gush Katif passed without incident.

Four arrested for bugging 'Yediot' employees

RAINE MARCUS

FOLLOWING Tuesday's arrest of two private investigators suspected of illegally eavesdropping on the phones of *Yediot Ahronot* employees, as well as cellular phones and faxes of institutions and other public figures, Tel Aviv police are trying to discover who paid for the phone taps.

Ya'acov Tsur and Rafi Friedman, managers of Agam Private Investigations, were remanded for six days by Tel Aviv Magistrates Court on Wednesday. Trainee investigator Danny Patri, and ex-policeman, and driver Benny Hayoun were remanded until today.

After a complaint by Mimi Mozes, managing director of the

Yediot-owned *Laisha* women's magazine, detectives discovered a vehicle, apparently used for recording phone conversations, near her Herzliya home. Hayoun, whose job was to replace cassettes in vehicles, was followed by police and arrested. He admitted replacing tapes used for recording, but said he did not know he was acting illegally.

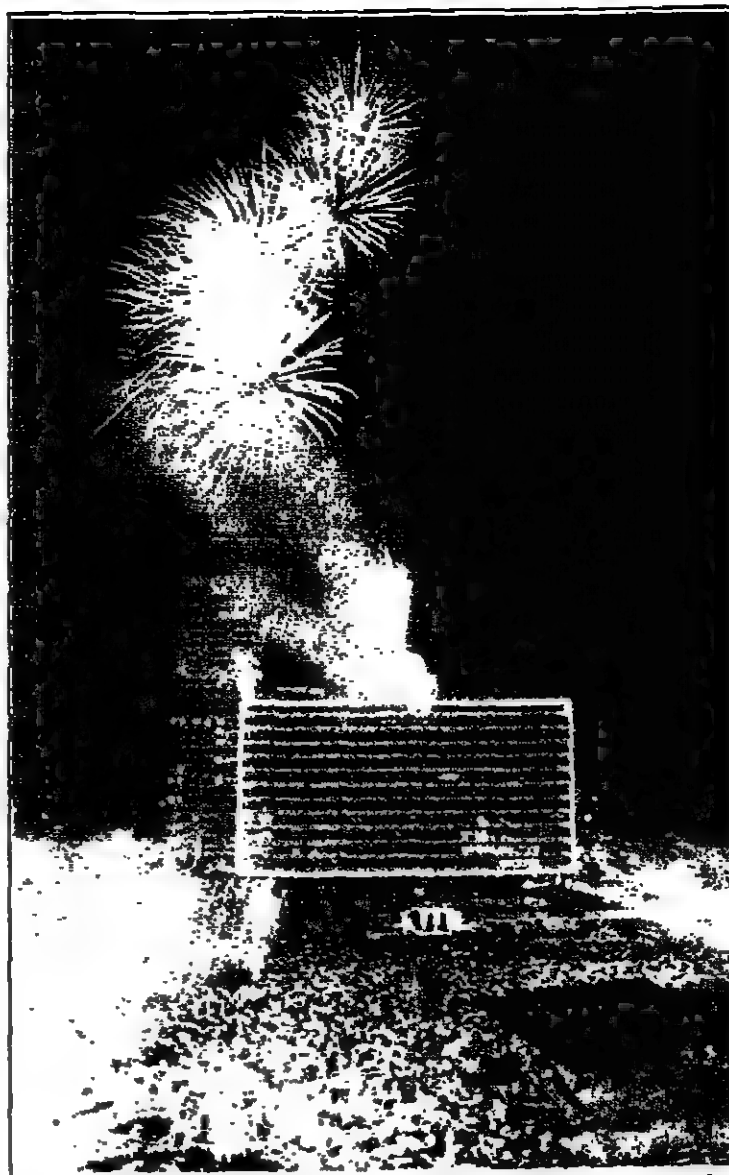
He was followed to Agam's offices. Patri apparently cooperated fully with police, telling them where three vehicles used for tapping phones were located. Friedman, who is presently awaiting trial on other phone tapping charges, was arrested in

his office. He admitted three cases of eavesdropping, but insisted he committed no crime. (By law, someone can record his own conversation with another person, even without the second party's knowledge.)

Police seized a special machine, used for listening to conversations on cellular phones at Friedman's office.

Friedman phoned up his partner Tsur from police headquarters, and the latter also appeared for questioning. The pair are not cooperating, and refuse to disclose who paid for their services.

Police refused to confirm or deny that the phones of Tel Aviv mayor Ronni Milo and Likud headquarters were also bugged.



Tel Aviv marks the start of Israel's 46th Independence Day on Wednesday night with a fireworks display over the city's Malchei Yisrael Square. (Israel Sun / Hanochi Grinitsky)

Israel's aid staying at \$3 billion per year

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

AID to Israel and Egypt will be preserved for at least another year under the new Middle East foreign assistance budget the Clinton administration has presented to Congress.

The two countries together will consume nearly all of the \$3.25 billion in fiscal year 1995 aid to the region, with Israel receiving \$3 billion in military and economic assistance and Egypt getting \$2.1 billion.

"It is no exaggeration to say

that these funds play a direct and vital role in promoting our objectives in the peace process," said deputy assistant secretary of state Dan Kurtzer.

In addition, Jordan will receive \$15.5 million and Lebanon \$4.4 million. For the first time, the US is granting direct foreign aid to Palestinians in the territories, to-

Ministry to ask court for restraining order against striking pharmacists

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry will this morning ask the Tel Aviv District Labor Court for restraining orders against 1,200 public-sector pharmacists, whose strike enters its fourth day today.

"We are law abiding, so we would observe restraining orders," said union chief Dvora Arad last night. "But we hope the court will not accede to the ministry's request, because our strike is perfectly legal. We are not asking for anything unusual, just a new wage agreement to replace the one that expired 18 months ago."

The union opened the pharmacies at Hadera's Hillel Yaffe Hospital and in the Kupat Holim Clinic's emergency community health clinics following the terrorist attack in the city on Wednesday, and they will remain open until further notice, Arad said. But in the rest of the country, drugs are running out, especially in the hospitals.

Dozens of requests for vital drugs were received by the strike committees in the hospitals, and many of them were approved. But the strike has caused the postponement of non-emergency operations and treatments.

New police chief likely to be picked by Sunday

BILL HUTMAN

A NEW police inspector-general is likely to be chosen this weekend by Police Minister Moshe Shahal, with Central District Cmdr. Asaf Hefetz and Jerusalem District Cmdr. Yehuda Wilk the favored candidates for the post.

Ministry sources said Shahal will meet separately with senior police officers today for final discussions on the replacement for outgoing Inspector-General Rafi Peled.

Shahal is expected to officially announce his choice as early as tomorrow evening, said a ministry source.

Police brass, meanwhile, are becoming concerned that the appointment may result in a larger shake-up in the police hierarchy.

Hefetz and Wilk are likely to resign if not chosen for the inspector-general post, thus forcing additional changes in the police, according to several senior officers.

The sources warned that such a shake-up would be particularly detrimental at a time when police are struggling to cope with the upswing in Arab terror.

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Heavy bombing in Sidon; six SLA men die in roadside blast

SIDON (AP) - A roadside bomb detonated by fundamentalist terrorists killed five South Lebanon Army soldiers yesterday, triggering massive SLA shelling of this city for the first time in two years.

Twelve residents of Sidon were killed in the shelling, the first since July 1991. Sixteen others were wounded, security sources said.

They said the bomb explosion ripped through a SLA patrol at Aramta in the central sector of the security zone.

The sources said two other SLA militiamen were wounded in the 7:15 p.m. blast, which the SLA blamed on Hizbullah, which made no immediate responsibility claim. Tens of thousands of Sidon's 300,000 inhabitants scurried to basements and underground shelters, the sources reported.

The Lebanese army said in a communique its artillery batteries around Sidon pounded the sources of fire.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Border policemen suspected of robbing Arab

Three border policemen were arrested yesterday on suspicion of beating and robbing a Nabulus resident while carrying out searches in the Tel Aviv area.

The Arab complained to the police, who reported the incident to Border Police headquarters. The officers, all doing their compulsory military service, are being questioned by police, and may be suspended by their commander. *lit*

Remand extended in shooting death

The remand of Natan Ingelsman, 36, of Shilo, suspected of shooting to death Fatma Ralidah, 19, of el-Jib, north of Jerusalem, while firing at stone-throwers Tuesday, was extended by nine days by Jerusalem Magistrates Court on Wednesday. *lit*

2 killed in tractor accidents

Two men were killed on Wednesday when their tractors overturned in separate incidents.
Yigal Kali, 65, was killed while he was driving near Acre. He drove over a ditch and the tractor suddenly overturned.
South of Beersheba, Salama Elog, 52, was towing a cart when one side of the tractor rolled over a small hill. The tractor then overturned, killing Elog and lightly injuring a passenger. *lit*

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Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 10 of spades, ace of hearts, 10 of diamonds, and eight of clubs.

In Wednesday's draw, the lucky cards were the jack of spades, nine of hearts, jack of diamonds and king of clubs.

SURRENDER

May 12, 1938 - Konrad Henlein, leader of the Sudeten-German SDP movement, meets with members of the British Government, informing them of the Sudeten-German proposal for peace, based on the following framework:

1. Czechoslovakia would have a central Parliament in Prague, which would have control over foreign policy and defense issues.
2. Frontier outposts could be manned by the Czech army.
3. Sudeten German regions would control local autonomy in the occupied territories.
4. The autonomous local government would control local police, the postal service, and a portion of tax collection.
5. Disputes over territorial boundaries would be resolved by an international tribunal.

September 7, 1938 - Henlein breaks off negotiations with the Czech Government, citing police excesses at Moravska-Ostrava.

September 10, 1938 - Czech President Benes addresses the nation on Czech Radio, stating:

"I firmly believe that nothing more than moral force will be needed. Should we, in peace, solve our nationality affairs... our country will be one of the most beautiful... worthiest, and most equitable countries in the world."

September 12, 1938 - Speaking in Nuremberg, Hitler calls for "justice to be given to the Sudeten Germans," otherwise Germany will take action by October 1.

September 14, 1938 - Henlein delivers an ultimatum to the Czech Government, demanding:

1. Repeal of martial law in areas where rioting has taken place.
2. Withdrawal of Czech police from the occupied Sudetenland.
3. Separation of the Czech military installations from the civilian population in Sudeten territories.

September 16, 1938 - William L. Shirer broadcasts to the United States from Prague, asking: "Will the Czechs consent to breaking up their state, and sacrificing their strategic mountain border...?"

September 23, 1938 - The Czech army mobilizes 40 divisions, to meet the 35 divisions mobilized on their border by the Wehrmacht.

September 30, 1938 - Czechoslovakia, faced with an agreement reached between Germany, France and Britain, capitulates. It accepts the so-called Munich Agreement, which calls for the Czechs to allow the German army to occupy the Sudetenland, and permit a national referendum. In return, France and Britain guarantee the sovereignty of the remainder of Czechoslovakia.

October 13, 1938 - The International Commission, established under the terms of the Munich Agreement, decides that no referendum need be held in the Sudetenland.

December 21, 1938 - The new French ambassador in Berlin is notified that Germany now rejects the idea of any guarantees on Czechoslovakia.

March 15, 1939 - Czechoslovakia ceases to exist.

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Heavy bombing in Sidon; six SLA men die in roadside blast

Sidon, Lebanon - A roadside bomb exploded in a residential area of Sidon, Lebanon, yesterday, killing six men and wounding several others. The explosion occurred on a busy street near the city's port. The victims were identified as members of the Syrian Lebanese Army (SLA). The blast was attributed to a car bomb. The city of Sidon is a coastal town in Lebanon, known for its historical significance and its port. The SLA is a militant group that has been active in the region for several years. The bombing is the latest in a series of attacks in the area. The Syrian government has condemned the attack and vowed to investigate it. The UN has also expressed concern over the situation in Lebanon. The conflict in Lebanon has been ongoing for decades, with various groups vying for power. The situation remains tense, and there is a need for a peaceful resolution.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1994

Hammering home a message to Yasser Arafat

A permanent closure of the territories would be financially catastrophic for the Gaza Strip, Abraham Rabinovich and Jose Rosenfeld report

THE sound of hammers echoes hollowly in almost-deserted building sites throughout the country, but the faint tapping should be reverberating like thunder in Tunis.

Mr. Arafat has been taking the daily economic existence of Gaza for granted," said Prof. Ezra Sadan, a former Finance Ministry director-general.

"He's just been told that he can't."

The decision by the government this week to permit the import of more than 15,000 foreign workers for the construction industry makes its closure order last week different from numerous such orders in the past barring access to Israel from the territories.

Treasury economic adviser Tsipi Gal-Yam said the importation of foreign workers is only a temporary measure. It is not regarded as a healthy solution for the economy in the long run.

Since the Gulf war period, when the territories were closed off for a long time, dependence on Palestinian workers has diminished steadily, according to Jonathan Katz, head of Economic Modeling and Forecasting.

It indicates for the first time a serious possibility of finding an alternative to the symbiotic relationship of the past quarter century that has made the building industry - a central force in the Israeli economy - and the Arabs of the territories dependent on each other.

The closure was imposed as a direct reaction to the Afula car-bomb blast and was initially seen purely as a security move aimed at tiding the nation safely over Independence Day.

THIS WEEK'S cabinet decision indicates that the closure is now being regarded either as the beginning of a basic restructuring of the labor force or as a negotiating tactic which puts into Israel's hands a powerful card that the Palestin-



These Romanian laborers are likely to be joined by more than 15,000 foreign workers to replace Palestinians. (Ariel Jerolimski)

ians didn't realize the government was holding.

Although only some 30,000 Gazans normally work in Israel - the bulk of them in the building trades - the income they earn accounts for half of the GNP in the Gaza Strip, according to Sadan, who headed a government study of the economy of the territories.

"Arafat was getting this free until a week ago," said Sadan, now head of the Volcani Institute.

"He does not get it free anymore. He will have to negotiate for it and he will have to pay for it at the negotiating table."

The Palestinian autonomy will not be able to generate jobs to replace those supplied by Israel, Sadan said. "Without Israel, they will drift from the Third World to the Fourth in the long term."

As for the impact on Israel, he said, it would be mistaken to focus on the immediate hardships.

"Israel will adjust to this as if nothing has happened. We will import workers, change the technology. True, we've been talking about changing the technology for a long time, but without something like this closure, it wouldn't happen."

In the past, Sadan said, Arabs dominated not only the construction sector but agriculture and the service industries as well. Since the large-scale immigration from the former Soviet Union began, Arabs have largely been pushed out of the service sector.

"Everybody said Jews won't clean streets or work in restaurants. They were mistaken," Sadan said.

Attempts to bring Israeli workers into the building trades are undermined by the on-again, off-again process of closing and opening the territories, according to Efraim Sadka, chairman of the Housing and Construction Holding Co. (formerly Solel Boneh). Contractors are also frustrated by the government's waffling about whether to bring in foreign work-

ers. The government must adopt a consistent policy if Israelis are to commit themselves to a career in construction, he said.

Sadan does not advocate a permanent closure, since that would doom the Palestinians to economic hardships which will make them unstable neighbors.

"Misery is no foundation for peace. Open borders are the only way to bring prosperity to Gaza." But in the end, the number of jobs in this country that are available to Arabs from the territories may be halved, he said.

The Palestinian government, Sadan suggested, may respond to Israel's security concerns by organizing a subcontracting system rather than permitting workers to cross the border on an individual basis.

The closure has brought the construction industry here to a virtual halt.

JERUSALEMITES ALEX and Linda Holtz's new home was supposed to have been finished last July. Despite all the guarantees they wrote into their contract, they ended up having to pay rent while construction dragged on.

"It's supposed to be finished by the end of June, but I know for a fact it won't be finished by then," Linda Holtz said this week.

In Pisgat Ze'ev in northern Jerusalem, foremen from three building sites gathered in a field office this week to chat and scan the newspapers.

Each had a handful of workers at his site, but that did not require the foremen's continued presence. "We shouldn't permit the Arab workers back," said one foreman, who identified himself only as Shlomo.

"You can't turn your back on them without worrying about getting knifed, and they deliberately sabotage the work."

At a nearby apartment site, foreman Maurice Sabag said he had eight Romanian laborers and two from eastern Jerusalem working. Sixty Palestinians from the territories were absent.

"I'm not worried about being stabbed and I get along well with the Arabs. But the long-term solution is to draw Jews to the trade by

raising salaries. When I started as a builder 35 years ago, I made more than a bank clerk or government clerk," Sabag said.

But Mordechai Yona, president of the Builders' and Contractors' Association, said people are reluctant to work with Palestinians who may stab them in the back.

Yona disagreed with the notion that Israelis avoid construction work because of poor wages.

"Construction workers make more than industrial and hotel workers," he said. Most economists agree that if the closure becomes permanent, wages will rise.

The Arabs are good workers, Sabag said, but they averaged only 15 workdays a month because of strikes and closures.

Also, sabotage for nationalistic reasons was a serious problem. He had to keep finished apartments locked so the one or two vandals among the workers could not get in to smash tiles or clog pipes. Sabag said he commiserated with the Arabs in the territories, but it is a problem of their own making.

JERUSALEM BUILDING contractor Rami Fields expresses doubt that Jewish labor will ever be drawn in sufficient numbers to the trade to replace Arabs, even by raising salaries. "I raised salaries by 30 to 25 percent, but it didn't work."

In the end, Fields said, substantial wage increases will mean higher housing costs. While foreign workers are a short-term alternative, he said, it is not a desirable long-term solution.

"It's not healthy for the Israeli social environment to have communities of foreign laborers in our midst. I believe we cannot avoid the continuance of Arab labor. The Arab workers live here, they go home to their families and they understand what I want from them," Fields said.

"The best way to have long-lasting peace is for the two peoples to work together. The interaction of employer-employee relationships and the interaction of commerce... break down barriers."

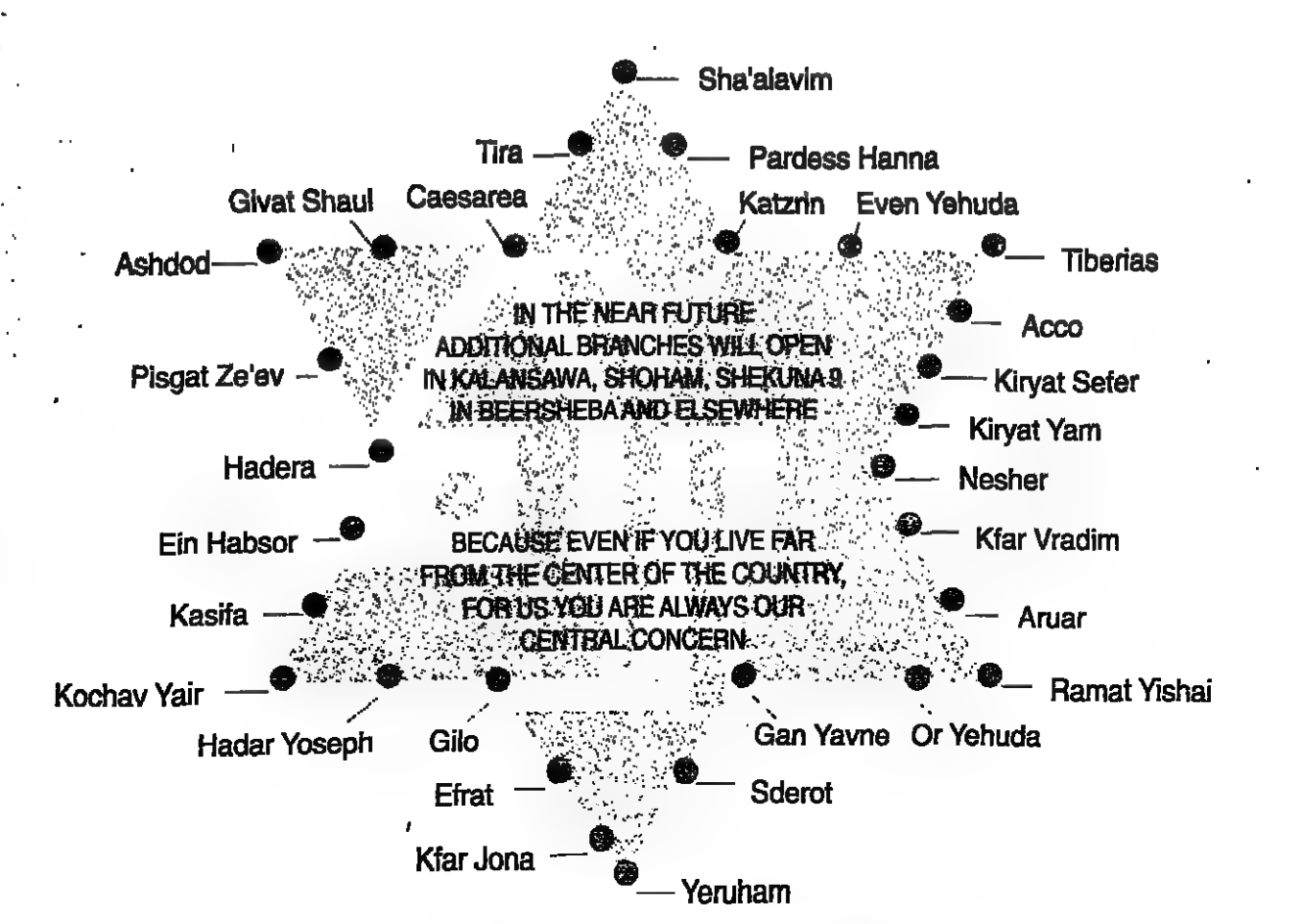
Many economists and even some contractors justify employment of Arabs from the territories in terms of the national interest.

"I cannot ignore the political process and the fact that there are 2 million Palestinians, and they need work," Yona said.

Sasha Sadan contributed to this report.

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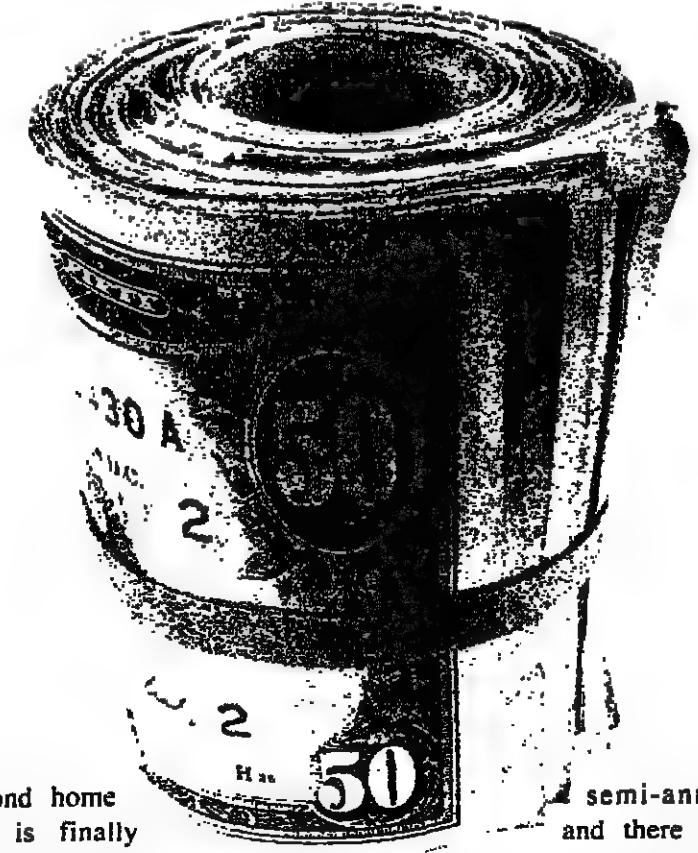
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Terrorists in suits

TO his family and friends, Mohammed Saleh was a Palestinian who made good. One of 15 children, Saleh left the Kalandia refugee camp near Ramallah after the Six Day War and settled in the US. A father of three, Saleh has been a businessman in Chicago and active in community affairs.

Then there's the other side to Saleh. He has been spending the last year shuttling between an Israeli prison and the Ramallah military court where he is charged with being the paymaster of Hamas in the territories. The trial, which resumed on Tuesday, has been held largely in camera.

Israeli and US counterterrorism experts agree that the 41-year-old Saleh and his colleagues have made Hamas, which claimed responsibility for last week's car-bombing in Afula in which seven Israelis were killed, one of the most powerful terrorist groups today. They say the Islamic movement has all the elements of a successful organization: popular support, highly-motivated terrorists, internal discipline, a sophisticated political wing and international links and financing.

"An operation like the Afula bombing isn't done by one man," said Ariel Merari, former head of the terror project at the Jaffee Center for Strategic Studies and a leading world expert on the subject. "It's a decision made by many others. There is intelligence, material, money. The one who drives the car is simply the pawn."

In the aftermath of the car-bombing, Hamas has picked up momentum. Some Israeli officials believe the group has ended its apparent policy, in force since last September's Israel-PLO accord, of limiting attacks to the areas.

Contrary to the assertions of some cabinet ministers, who linked the Afula bombing to the Hebron massacre in February, these security officials had been expecting Hamas to carry out a spectacular terrorist attack since last year. Their assessment is that Hamas will increase its attacks around the country.

That represents a problem for police responsible for security within the Green Line. Despite an effective counterterror unit, the police force has most of its officers in uniform, a fine tactic for scaring off common criminals but largely ineffective against trained terrorists. In addition, police simply don't have the draconian powers of investigation available to the General Security Service.

Take the Afula bombing, for example. Security sources say the vehicle in which the bomb exploded had been stolen two weeks earlier. The car had been packed with at least 150 kilograms of explosives and a gas canister.

Hamas operatives used Afula and decided that with its proximity to the territories and large Israeli-Arab presence in which the terrorists could blend, the town was an easy target. The terrorists determined the best time to explode the bomb was noon, when students were leaving school. The suicide bomber, who Merari says usually is motivated by deep depression rather than ideology, was then recruited and sent on his mission.

"The police are one step behind the terrorists," said Commander Arye Amit, head of the police operation's division at a recent seminar on terrorism at Bar-Ilan University's BESA Center for Strategic Studies. "The terrorists act. The police react."

Yonah Alexander, visiting pro-

Money collected in the US has been used to fund Hamas attacks here, Steve Rodan reports

fessor of law at George Washington University in Washington, DC, and a leading terror expert, believes Hamas is ready to go international. "It's not just that Hamas will attack Israel," he said. "It will also attack Israeli and Jewish targets all over the world."

Hamas has become far more confident since December 1992 when Israel deported more than 400 Islamic militants to south Lebanon. Today, as then, the government has ordered a total and indefinite closure.

The difference this time is that Hamas does not fear that Israel will once again expel its members and risk international sanction. Likud chairman Benjamin Netanyahu quoted Israeli intelligence sources as saying that the Afula bombing might have been directed by Hamas returnees trained during their exile in Lebanon, an assessment shared by some Israeli security officials.

The result, security officials say, is that Hamas has thumbed its nose at the government's offensive. This, despite the capture on Monday of Hamas fugitive Rasan Siam, 32, suspected of directing Hamas attacks against the IDF in the Gaza Strip.

In Hebron, the group has raised its profile, inciting hundreds to defy curfews and attack elite IDF units.

Hamas spokesmen are also appearing on television, openly warning of violence. The latest leaflet, issued by Hamas's terror wing Izzedin el-Kassam, contains a threat to PLO chief Yasser Arafat. "We personally request that you halt the negotiations with Israel for one year," the leaflet reads, "and give us an opportunity to attack Israelis and remove them entirely from Gaza, Jericho and Hebron, on the way to completely liberating the West Bank and Gaza, and your place in the leadership will be preserved."

The rise of Hamas has worried US State Department officials dealing with the Middle East peace process. They say they no longer believe that Arafat will have the power to stop the Islamic opposition from attacking Israel even after the PLO assumes authority in Gaza and Jericho.

ISRAELI SECURITY officials place the blame for Hamas's ascent at the doorstep of Washington. They say American Moslems raise millions of dollars a year for Hamas. US Marines have been employed to train Hamas militants in explosives and guerrilla warfare.

Hamas has garnered tremendous support among many American blacks, the security officials say, largely through the efforts of the Nation of Islam movement and its leader Louis Farrakhan.

"Hamas in the United States has a lot of influence on the operation in the territories," said Yigal Carmon, former adviser to the prime minister on counterterrorism who has lectured to the Pentagon.

Carmon and US experts agree that the placement of Hamas on the State Department list of terrorist groups has done virtually nothing to stop its activities.

American supporters, however, have vetoed Hamas plans to attack American Jews or Jewish targets abroad, largely to avoid a backlash by US authorities. US experts say. Instead, they prefer to spread antisemitic literature. An exception was the arrest six weeks ago of three Palestinians in Chicago, charged with torching a Jewish school.

SALEH, THE American citizen on trial in Ramallah, has provided Israeli security officials with perhaps the best information on how Hamas operates in the US. The military indictment says that from 1988, Saleh was a member of Hamas as well as Palestine, an independent organization linked to the Egyptian-based Moslem Brotherhood. The goal was to unite Palestinians in the US to fight Israel. Saleh's alleged role was to help train Palestinian mujahedeen, or martyrs for the Islamic war against Israel.

According to the indictment, Saleh recruited members obtained information on explosives and remote-controlled bombs and chemical explosives. He arranged for the training of 10 Islamic militants and then sent them to Israeli-administered territories to launch attacks.

In August 1992, Saleh was asked to bring what eventually amounted to nearly \$1 million to the territories to rebuild Hamas and supply it with guns. The money would be transferred in cash through a moneychanger in Ramallah. Hamas leaders in the US and Britain had believed that the IDF arrests in the latter half of that year were decimating the organization and ending its attacks against Israel.

The aim of a renewed Hamas was to torpedo the growing links between the Rabin government and the pro-PLO Palestinian delegation negotiating with Israel in Washington. At one point, the indictment says, a Hamas leader in Ramallah, Adel Awdallah, requested permission from his American paymasters to kill leading PLO supporter Sari Nusseibeh. At first, Saleh's colleague, Mussa Abu Marzuk, was interested, but the proposal was eventually dropped.

Saleh's last visit to the territories was in early 1993. In all, the indictment says he distributed \$790,000. Of this, \$300,000 went to Hamas in Gaza; \$290,000 went to group members in Nabulus; \$200,000 was divided between Hebron and Ramallah. At least \$100,000 went to buy weapons. Tens of thousands of dollars went for propaganda. Much of the money was used to support Hamas fugitives; \$19,000 went to Hamas fugitives in Nabulus; another \$17,000 went to Gaza fugitives hiding out in Ramallah and Hebron.

Israeli security sources say Saleh's arrest hasn't hurt Hamas at all. They are certain that he has been replaced by others, who move freely within the US as well as within the growing Islamic community inside Israel. The Islamic movement in Israel is said to have strong ties to Hamas in the territories.

For his part, Saleh has argued in court that the money he distributed was for charitable purposes. His family says they believe him. Still, Saleh's brother, Tayssir, acknowledges that he doesn't know what his brother had been doing during his visits. "I never knew him," he said. "He left after the 1967 war."



Tipping scales of criminal justice

Defense attorneys say the criminal-justice system here remembers the alleged criminal but forgets the justice, Raine Marcus writes

YURI Zohar moved here from the Soviet Union in 1965, only to encounter an Israeli gulag 25 years later.

Zohar said the police officers who arrived at his Hod Hasharon electronics store in the spring of 1990 didn't find the weapons they said they were looking for, but handcuffed him anyway.

He was kept in a cell at the Ramat Gan police station until he was transferred to Abu Kabir.

"At first, I was scared stiff. I'm a normal human being who had lived a normal, law-abiding life with quite a glorious military record. I wasn't a drug addict or a criminal," said Zohar, 45, who said he was a veteran of the IDF's elite General Staff Reconnaissance Unit and the Paratroopers Corps.

Zohar spent nine months in jail, denied bail by a system he said presumed his guilt. He was acquitted on charges of aggravated threats and extortion. The officers who arrested him didn't believe he had simply been trying to collect debts for a friend in Berlin.

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Yehoshua Gross apparently did. He acquitted Zohar.

Zohar's lawyer, Yoram Hacham, said the case is typical of how a person's freedom is abused by police and this country's legal system.

"The initial arrest for 48 hours before bringing a suspect in front of a judge is intended to break his spirit," Hacham said.

"In first-time arrests, a suspect with no criminal record will find himself in a filthy cell with junkies experiencing withdrawal symptoms. Stabbings are commonplace. He is not allowed a change of clothes... nor a razor blade or toothbrush. When he arrives in court, he looks subhuman."

Defense attorneys claim that many innocent people have had their lives ruined by cavalier police only too keen to fill out arrest

warrants and remand suspects until they admit to a crime or inform on the real culprit.

Police deny such accusations.

"The authority of remanding a suspect in custody lies exclusively with the judge, who examines all the evidence," said Cmdr. Yossi Levy, head of national investigations.

"Police are subject to the scrutiny of the court and the High Court of Justice, as well as to the press, MKs, civil-rights movements and citizens."

National police statistics for 1993 show that 44,800 people were arrested. Some 36,000 criminal files were opened last year, although not all the suspects were indicted. Of those, 15,000 are still in stages of prosecution; 3,300 are in the district attorney's office, preindictment or after indictment and awaiting trial; 4,000 criminals have been sentenced; 3,300 files were closed for lack of evidence and 10,000 are still under investigation by police.

BY LAW, said Prof. Kenneth Mann, chairman of Tel Aviv University's Institute of Criminal Law, a police suspect may be held for 48 hours before appearing before a magistrate for a remand hearing.

To support allegations, police may submit evidence to the judge which neither the suspect nor his lawyer are privy to. A suspect may also submit evidence to the judge which the police are barred from seeing, but this rarely happens.

"This [confidential evidence] severely restricts a suspect's ability to scrutinize what he is suspected of doing," Mann said.

Levy defended the use of confidential pretrial information, saying that exposing details so early in a case could disrupt an investigation and reveal informants.

But according to Mann, "A person is supposed to be kept in jail for the purpose of protecting the public or protecting the integrity of the investigation. Different judges have different views on the matter, and there is insufficient guidance from appellate courts."

Mann believes police arrest suspects too easily. They may ask for a maximum 15-day detention at a time, up to a period of 30 days. After that, the attorney-general must sign a request to remand a suspect for a maximum of 90 days before indictment, Mann said.

The Supreme Court has the power to grant an appeal by prosecutors to extend a preindictment remand by 90-day periods — indefinitely.

If a suspect is granted bail, the length of time until he is indicted is unlimited, Mann added, "which can create a major problem, as he may be formally charged just when he thinks the file has been closed."

The statute of limitations for a misdemeanor is five years. The legal deadline for a felony other than murder is 10 years; for murder, it is 20 years. But the statute of limitations takes effect only from "the last day of police investigative proceedings," Mann said, meaning that police can say forever that they are still investigating.

According to Levy, suspects may by law be kept in custody to

prevent the destruction of evidence and the disruption of an investigation; to prevent the suspect from influencing witnesses, partners in the crime and the victim; to prevent the suspect from fleeing if he has such a record or if he has no fixed address.

"In some cases, a remand is intended to keep a suspect away from the public if there are reasonable grounds to suppose he is likely to repeat his crime or carry out any threats — especially regarding violent crimes," Levy said.

In some cases, the police will accept house arrest as an alternative to detention, Levy said.

Most preindictment suspects are detained for an average of seven days, Mann said, but even if a suspect wants to appeal his detention, a lack of time and money often prevents him from doing so.

COURTS ARE not obliged to appoint a lawyer for remand hearings, but a suspect can request one after indictment. Courts must appoint a lawyer, paid for by the state, for anyone accused of a crime carrying at least a 10-year prison term, if he or she is unable to hire one.

Mann said most suspects have no legal representation at remand hearings, which makes it more difficult for judges to review the case to determine whether custody is appropriate.

A suspect is entitled to phone a lawyer before appearing in court, but defense attorney Hacham claimed that during the first 48 hours police give lawyers the run-around — a claim police deny.

According to Hacham, "It is not unusual for a client or his family to phone me, saying that he is in a certain police station. When I get there, the suspect has been moved somewhere else, maybe 100 km. away."

This, Hacham said, is part of the "demoralizing process" aimed at extracting a confession or coaxing a suspect to cooperate.

Police spokesman Cmdr. Adi Gonen denied such claims, saying police are careful to ensure a suspect's legal right to an attorney.

But a detective who has served in the police force for nearly 20 years, speaking on condition of anonymity, said "it is common practice to leave a suspect to sweat for a while until we allow him to phone his lawyer. The minute his lawyer is present, it reduces our chances of getting a confession or his cooperation."

Tel Aviv lawyer Amnon Zichroni blames judges for not sufficiently overseeing police who ask for remands.

"Judges all too readily sign police requests for remands," Zichroni said. "Time in jail often has lasting effects on the victim. Even if he is not indicted, his friends, family and employer may read of the arrest in the press."

On a busy day, a judge hearing remands may deal with up to 40 suspects alleged by police to have committed crimes ranging from theft to murder, said Moshe Aloni, vice president of the Tel Aviv Bar Association.

Former Jerusalem District Court president Asher Felix Landau said that, although he did not

preside in magistrates' court, he understands that those judges have to deal with a massive case-load, and courts suffer from a shortage of manpower.

"There may be a tendency not to handle these cases with the care they deserve, because of the pressure judges are under," Landau said, "especially when many offenders do not have lawyers and are young offenders, immigrants or Arabs."

Translators are usually unavailable for Russian immigrants. On occasion, Russian-language newspaper reporters have served as translators because courts don't have a budget for it.

There is no qualifying system for interpreters, and there are no guarantees that those who do translate are objective or accurate, Mann said.

But a Justice Ministry spokesperson said Russian and Arabic interpreters have recently been added in Tel Aviv courts; there are no English translators.

Aloni said the bar association has been fighting what it calls "exaggerated use of detention."

"One reason police are supposed to detain suspects is because they are a danger to the public," Aloni said.

"In the case of white-collar crimes or first-time offenders, this often doesn't apply."

ALONI ACCUSED judges of reluctance to set bail.

"Somehow we must change judges' thinking so that they think twice about taking away someone's liberty.... Detention is not supposed to be a punishment."

Spokesman Gonen said detention is for investigative purposes and not meant as a punishment.

"Inquiry may be disrupted if a suspect is on bail. He can inform other suspects and cover up or destroy evidence.... In many cases we release him before the time set by the judge is up."

Haim Eilat, retired vice president of Tel Aviv Magistrates' Court, strongly disputes lawyers' claims that police hold undue sway over magistrates.

"In my experience, judges realize a man's freedom is at stake, thoroughly examine evidence and often make life difficult for the police."

Eilat said police "either arrest too easily or are not able to produce sufficient evidence to bring suspects to trial, judging by the low number of suspects eventually charged."

Mann said police here have an easier time in the courtroom compared with the US.

"There is more of a crime-control orientation here and less concern with the hardship imposed on the individual. We also focus more on the good of the community."

ADMINISTRATIVE DETENTION, which was imposed on eight suspected Kach members recently, relates to matters of public security. The proceedings are held in military courts.

According to B'tselem, a human-rights organization, an October 1992 report showed 14,000 orders for administrative detention since the beginning of the intifada. Last month, there were 107 Palestinians in administrative detention; many were released after the Israeli-PLO accord was signed.

"Administrative detention is a preventive measure, when there may be a danger to public security," Mann said.

The suspect may not have committed an offense, but authorities fear he is likely to, Mann said. During administrative detention a suspect may be kept in jail or his movements limited.

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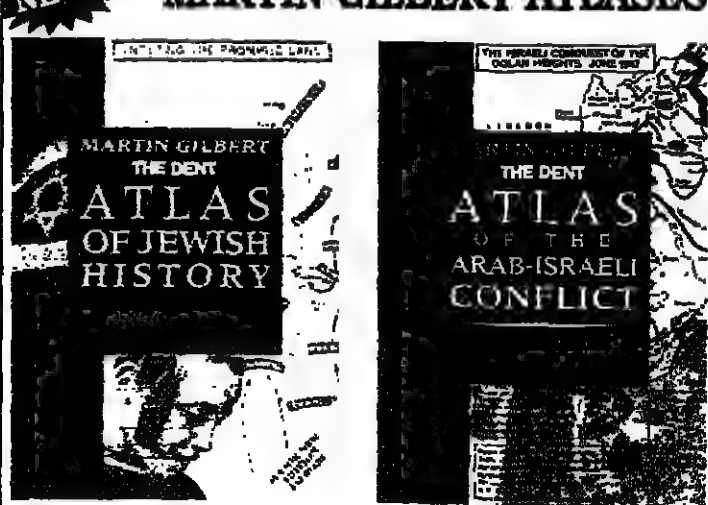
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Histadrut leaders should begin reading their tea leaves

Histadrut members are extremely critical of the labor union, Michal Yudelman reports

THE Histadrut is giving tea a bad name.

"That organization is just like the caricatures, with all the corridors and offices and tea glasses, in which nothing is being done," said Esther Cohen, a 35-year-old lawyer who specializes in labor relations and is a Histadrut member "out of inertia."

Tali Entzer, a physiotherapist in Maccabi, said she once worked for the Histadrut's Kupat Holim Clalit, "but they fired me when someone returned from maternity leave. I asked for an alternative post, and they told me that they reserve all their positions for their own people, who graduate from the Wingate physiotherapy school, which is financed by the Histadrut."

"I finally found work in Maccabi. The Histadrut does not help workers. It only helps... its own tea drinkers."

Histadrut leaders should wake up and read the tea leaves, its members say. In random interviews, members were long on criticism and short on praise.

Burdened by a poor image, the Histadrut has failed to market itself. Its consumers, Histadrut members, will have their say in next month's elections.

Even those who say that Kupat Holim Clalit has improved greatly, or that the Histadrut's achievements have contributed much to



Party members of the Histadrut applaud at the opening of the labor federation's election campaign, but others are sitting on their hands. (Scoop 80)

workers' welfare, most of the members interviewed said it was too little, too late to balance out the Histadrut's shortcomings today. Members say the Histadrut no longer protects workers, and employees are at the mercy of their bosses.

The stigma is so bad that any

plant that closes down, such as the privately owned Ata or MK Avraham Shapira's bankrupt Carmel Carpets, is perceived as examples of the Histadrut abandoning the workers.

Dafna Lowenstein, an elementary-school teacher in the Tel Aviv area, said the long teachers' strike

last year, at which the teachers were represented by their unions and the Histadrut, did bring about an improvement in salaries, "but we also had several work hours added to our timetable, so that we aren't really getting more pay."

"The strike ended with great frustration for all of us. The feel-

ing is that there is no protection for workers, and an employer can fire whomever he wants."

SHMUEL ALGRABLI, head of the Histadrut's media department, said its image problem is based on misconceptions.

"The Histadrut has received a

lot of bad press for being against privatization. But we opposed it because it did not provide severance fees and pensions for the workers they wanted to fire."

But a senior Histadrut source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said protecting workers' rights is "just not in. It's not politi-

cally correct.... Take the Histadrut's media image of a stagnating dinosaur, together with a not-so-attractive leadership, add that to unemployment, and you get a fatal combination."

Dr. Lev Grinberg, a political sociologist at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and author of *Hahistadrut Me'el Hakol* (The Histadrut Above All), said the Histadrut's bad public image "is justified. Since its establishment, the Histadrut has become detached from all its goals and the concern with workers' interests. Today it exists to maintain itself, to preserve its power."

The Histadrut's structure was vital to achieve its original purpose. It was created to organize Jewish labor, settle the land, start productive enterprises and provide a health, educational and social-welfare infrastructure. But after 1948, Histadrut officials did not want to relinquish their power or to change, Grinberg said.

He said it is obvious that all those on MK Haim Ramon's election list are politicians, without a single workers' representative, "an indication of where Ramon is heading and that he is already in danger of being cut off from the public."

Textile worker Ari Lossin, 60, said the Histadrut's leadership has "forgotten all about sharing management with the workers. Nobody in the food and textile industries feels that the Histadrut is worth anything or does any good. As long as people bring home such low wages, it doesn't matter to them that the Histadrut provides legal assistance or may help in cases of sexual harassment."

On the other hand, when it comes to Kupat Holim Clalit, Lossin has no complaints.

"It's a great achievement. I got superb treatment when I had a heart attack, really outstanding. There have been fantastic improvements, and there are clinics everywhere now open until 10 p.m."

Diaspora fund-raising: The buck is partly stopping there

North American Jewish organizations are directing more money toward local needs and away from Israel, Sue Fishkoff reports

In a full-page ad for Operation Exodus that ran frequently in the *New York Times* recently, UJA-Federation of New York pledges to "bring every Soviet Jew home to Israel and New York."

The ad is new, but New York Federation's Operation Exodus director Steve Doochin says the policy behind it is not.

Five years ago, the New York Federation began to earmark about 10 percent of its Operation Exodus funding for local resettlement of Jews from the former Soviet Union. Up to \$25 million from this year's \$225 million in Operation Exodus funds will stay in the New York area, which absorbs nearly half of the country's annual quota of 40,000 Soviet Jews, according to UJA figures.

Other federations also use part of their Operation Exodus dollars for local resettlement, but none have dared to be as public about it as New York.

"Throughout the rest of the country, our advertising is different," says national Operation Exodus public-relations director Ron Friedman. Advertising in other cities mentions only Israel. "Our efforts focus on getting the Jews of the former Soviet Union to Israel."

The tiny ripple caused by New York's Operation Exodus campaign is just part of the huge tremor shaking the foundations of American fund-raising for Israel, as Jewish leaders in Israel and the Diaspora struggle to redefine their spiritual, social and, above all, financial relationship.

Mixed messages are being sent from Israel. Even as Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin and President Ezer Weizman tell American Jewish leaders to keep their charity at home to educate the next generation, Uri Gordon, head of the Jewish Agency's immigration and absorption department, blasted the *Times* ad, saying that it "weakens the chances of bringing Jews to Israel, and we have to stop them."

Last month, the powerful Detroit federation announced that it will spend more of the money it raises in its annual campaign on

local needs, specifically Jewish education. The federation will reduce its Israel and overseas allocation over the next three years from 53 to 50 percent of gross campaign revenues, according to Detroit federation officials.

The move is telling because Detroit is traditionally one of Israel's strongest supporters, one of the few federations in North America that annually budgets half of fund-raising money for Israel and overseas Jewish needs.

If Detroit is bucking under the weight of increased local concerns, much of the rest of the country has already cracked.

Los Angeles federation officials confirmed that they have slashed their overseas allocation over the last five years from 46 to 37 percent of this year's \$40-million campaign.

Similarly, Boston's overseas allocation dropped from 44 percent several years ago to 34 percent of this year's \$21-million campaign.

Small communities are making incremental adjustments of one or two percent annually, but the trend toward keeping more dollars at home is unmistakable.

In Los Angeles, the 200,000-strong San Fernando Valley Jewish community has been slowing breaking away from the Los Angeles federation to form its own, more locally focused fund-raising entity.

Eari Greinetz, president of the new San Fernando Valley Alliance, says the move is designed to appeal to the increasingly local concerns of the community.

"Younger Jews, particularly in LA, are more involved in community things [rather than Israel]," he says. "We've got thousands of Jewish kids who need to be educated better in Jewish values, and need to be sent to Israel. The money needs to be spent that way."

There are many reasons for this shift. In a recessionary economy, non-Jewish funding sources for local Jewish social services have dried up, and federations have to make up the difference. Also, the younger generation of American Jews is less Israel-oriented. With

intermarriage past the 50-percent mark, leaders in Israel and North America have made Jewish education in the Diaspora a major funding priority.

Given this solid reasoning, ambivalence nevertheless runs high. Jeffrey Solomon, chief operations officer for program services at UJA-Federation New York, says, "On one hand, we're in the middle of Israel absorbing a new olim population of biblical proportions. On the other hand, we're seeing Israel move from a Second-World economy to a First-World economy in those same five years. Some of our ambiguity is related to these two events occurring at the same time."

Barry Shrage, president of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston and author of several studies of the changing Diaspora-Israel relationship, emphasizes that the trend of giving more to local Jewish needs should not be seen as a "philosophical" shift away from concern for Israel. It just reflects the reality of an economically stronger Israel.

"This can no longer be a paternalistic relationship," he says. "This is not the rich American Jews helping our poor Israeli cousins. Israel is a powerful, industrialized, fully fledged nation. It's up to us to work together with Israelis to solve problems together."

EVEN AS some communities give less of their charity money to UJA and Israel, they are increasing investments in joint ventures and other business opportunities.

For the last three years, Boston has taken 20 percent off the top of its Operation Exodus campaign and used it for economic investment in such projects as a new incubator at the Technion, a small-business support center in Haifa and a loan to the Haifa De-

velopment Corporation to help create a light-industry center.

"We have to create real relationships [with Israel] to replace the stereotypes," Shrage says.

In the midst of these shifting realities, federations that have maintained their "Israel-first" financial commitments are eager to let others know about it.

"This community has always been Israel oriented," says Rabbi Matthew Simon, former chairman of Operation Exodus in Washington, DC.

Washington and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, are the only two federations in North America that send 100 percent of their Operation Exodus funds to Israel. Simon says the decision has cost the community dearly, as local resettlement

of Jews from the former Soviet Union has turned out to be more expensive than anticipated. "But we did not want to go back on our commitment," he says.

Chicago's Jewish federation has not shifted its allocations away from Israel in recent years, according to executive director Steven Nasatir. This year's campaign is aiming for \$53.7 million. "In Chicago, there has not been any shifting of dollars, and you won't see any."

National UJA and the Council of Jewish Federations, the umbrella organization representing North America's 189 local Jewish federations, have announced plans to develop a nationwide distribution formula which local federations would be expected to fol-

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Recommended shows for the evening: The Swedish Folkopera "Turandot", Julian Bream plays guitar, Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra plays Bach, Antonio Carlos Jobim plays Bossa Nova.

THURSDAY, MAY 26, "AND AT NIGHT THEY SPEAK WITH GOD"

A tour and meetings in the mystical Jerusalem night, until the crack of dawn. Join the Breslavs in their talk with God, meet Rabbi Zusman at the Wall, visit Yeshivat Kol Torah, and the Prophet Samuel's tomb, meet Haredi talmudic scholars and meditators. Darkness brings strange phenomena.

Tour guide: Mr. Benny Brown. Price NIS 110, including return transport to Tel Aviv.

Recommended shows before the tour! The Hebbel Theatre in Doctor Faustus Lights the Lights, Trio Zingara, Le Mystere des Voix Bulgares.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, "CHURCHES IN JERUSALEM"

The capital has 137 churches and monasteries, for the many different Christian sects and factions, all very fascinating from a theological viewpoint. We'll visit Ein Karem's Church of the Visitation and the Church of St. John, the Church of John the Baptist, the Monastery of the Cross, the Dormition Abbey and the Augusta Victoria Church. Tour guide: Moli Brog. Price NIS 110.

Recommended shows to round off the day: Lanterna Magika presents *Odyssey*, The multimedia Wooster Group with "Brace Up", Jean-Claude Mara plays the Pan Pipes, La Compagnie Marie Chouinard.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, "UNDERGROUND JERUSALEM"

Join archaeologist Aren Maeir on a tour of the hidden city, a place where one does not see the sun, the dark mysterious Jerusalem, hidden underground. Included are visits to a Herodian mansion, the Rabbinic Tunnel (Minheret HaKotel), the Warren Shaft and the Southern Wall excavations.

Price NIS 110
Recommended shows for the evening: Flamenco with Ballet Cristina Hoyos, the Academy of Ancient Music, Baroque singer Barbara Schlick.

NUMBER OF PLACES LIMITED, TICKETS ARE GOING FAST.

Taking a hike on the wild side

Tales of danger on the more popular post-army trek routes don't scare young Israelis planning rite-of-passage trips, Allison Kaplan Sommer writes

AFTER serving two years in the army so that Israel might remain a free and independent state, 21-year-old Tel Avivian Adva Selzer will be declaring her own independence later this month - by leaving the country.

Despite frightening stories of sickness, accidents, robberies and even death in remote locations that have appeared recently in the local media, young people like Selzer continue to perform what has become a coming-of-age ritual: gathering their funds and heading for extended foreign adventures. The more far-flung, exotic and cheap the destination, and the longer the stay, the better.

"It's gotten to the point where it's really a natural stage of life of growing up in Israel. You're born, you have your brit mila, your bar mitzva, you go to the army, you go to the Far East or South America for a while, and only after that you begin your adult life," says Dedi Lifshitz, a 27-year-old photographer who spent nearly two years traveling to nearly every Central and South American country.

Unlike the brit mila, however, the traveling ritual is not just for boys. An equal number of young men and women populate the store Lametayel ("For the Traveler"), the acknowledged mecca for young people planning their foreign adventures.

The store, which covers a substantial part of the third floor of Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Center, does a booming business on the estimated 10,000 young Israelis who backpack to the Far East annually, and the 2,000 to 3,000 who head for South America. The estimates were compiled by Steinhart Katzir, publishers of travel guides for the young and intrepid.

The store is devoted to the sale of backpacks, sleeping bags, knives, binoculars and other equipment, and also provides

travel agency and travel insurance services.

But the most famous and popular part of the store is where information is exchanged. Crowded on cushions and rugs on the floor, young people pore over notebooks, each devoted to a different country and containing formal information on visas and regulations, press clippings and handwritten recommendations from those who have traveled the routes.

Behind them, a bulletin board is covered with thumbtacked notes, most of them short and to the point: Age 23, seeks travel partner for the Far East, leaving in July.

Curling up on the floor studying a map of Southeast Asia, Selzer, Noa Hamburger and Efrat Ginsburg, all 21-year-old Tel Avivians, already know they're traveling together to the Far East for six months; they just haven't decided where. Thailand, a common starting point for Far East travel, is a sure thing (El Al recently initiated direct Tel Aviv-Bangkok flights), but they are considering additional destinations during the half year they plan to travel.

Selzer admits that her parents are rather worried about the trip. It's no wonder. Accompanying the growth phenomenon of exotic travel among Israelis have been some cautionary tales.

A few months ago on the New Channel 2 program *Document*, cameras traced the sad journey of a father to India to recover the body of his son, who was apparently disabled by altitude sickness and died of starvation while camping alone on a mountaintop.

Newspapers recently featured the story of an unnamed girl who was found naked on the streets of New Delhi, apparently after being raped following an acid party.

"We're not going to do that stuff," Selzer said. "We are not traveling to the Far East in order to run wild. We want to experi-

ence another culture, have a little freedom, but we are not interested in drugs or risking our lives," she said, her friends nodding in agreement.

Despite her vows to be careful, Selzer's parents show her every newspaper article about the dangers lurking in the Far East. They have tried to persuade her to travel in what they considered safer countries, perhaps Europe or the United States, but she and her friends can't resist the lure of the East. To them, the unknown and exotic cultures represent freedom and adventure.

"We've just come out of the most structured situation you can possibly have in your life - the army," she explained. "We all know that once we start studying in the university, that's it; it's all structure and responsibility. First studies, then a career, then a family. This trip is going to be our time to be free and unstructured."

Ohad Sharav, 32, waited until after law school for his trip to the Far East, but it was a trip that changed his life. When he returned to Tel Aviv, Sharav abandoned the idea of practicing law and devoted himself to the travel business. After publishing *The Far East Guide* (Madrach Lamizrah Harahok), he acquired the rights to translate *The Lonely Planet Travel Books*, a popular series of guides, into Hebrew. Now, with Steinhart Katzir Publishers, he publishes the series.

Sharav said that sensible precautions should be taken before traveling anywhere, but the risks shouldn't be exaggerated.

"Thousands of people are taking these trips each year, but the number of injuries and deaths is comparatively small - there have only been two or three deaths over the past year. And a lot of the injuries are suffered by the small

minority who like to take risks, and they would take risks here in Israel anyway."

Most of the anecdotes he has heard regarding mishaps abroad, he contends, could have been prevented, had the victims taken the proper precautions or avoided plainly dangerous situations.

"When I was in Nepal, I met an Israeli who climbed through a mountain pass 1,500 meters high, without the right climbing equipment. His hands froze. When I met him it was two days later, and his hands were black, and he almost lost them. I don't know if you would call that recklessness, bad luck, or a combination of both."

A more frightening story concerns a visit Sharav paid to a famous Nepalese park where Indian rhinoceroses roam free. Sharav hired a local guide to lead him around the animals.

"At a certain moment when the rhino came too close, [the guide] instructed me to climb a tree to get away. Later, when I was back in Katmandu, I heard that another Israeli, who hadn't hired a guide, was charged and impaled when he got too close."

And there are the daredevils. Lifshitz described a cave in Bolivia located on the side of a mountain. To get to the cave, hikers must make their way for two hours through a small canal that winds through the steep side of the mountain.

"A year before I was there, two guys and a girl rode their motorcycle to the location, and one of the guys, who had served in an elite unit in the army said, 'Why should I walk?' and tried to take his motorcycle to the cave. It went off the cliff and he died. He was simply foolish."

OVER THE years, different des-

tinations have attracted different types. As travelers and potential travelers put it, South America tends to draw a more male, adventure-oriented crowd interested in active sight-seeing.

The East, particularly India, attracts those who want a less trying trek, and those who want to take it easy and loaf for long periods of time.

The trips may be even tougher on parents than they are on travelers. Barbara Asher, a Kfar Sava mother, said it was not easy when each of two of her daughters headed East for travels in politically unstable areas like Burma and parts of India.

Asher's daughter, Claire, returned home with a stomach virus which plagued her for several months.

"And I remember the time when my daughter Judith told me, 'Mother, I'm going to Kashmir; you won't hear from me for six weeks,'" she said.

The trip was pre-1991, the year a group of Israelis were kidnapped by a dissident group in the politically unstable region between India and Pakistan. One Israeli was killed and others injured during a struggle with them.

Since that incident, Kashmir is no longer on the itinerary for most traveling young Israelis.

Nir Gilad, 25, who works at Hametayel, said that the store often gets calls from hysterical parents who haven't heard from their traveling child.

"I try to calm them down, explain to them that their son or daughter probably just can't get to the phone, or is enjoying the experience of being away from home, a little too much - and hope that it isn't anything worse."

Gilad, who returned a year ago after spending 16 months in the Far East, believes that the experi-



Prospective backpackers leaf through information and tips on various countries at Tel Aviv's Lametayel store. (Alon Ron/Israel Sun)

ence can change the perspective and even the personality of young Israelis.

"Particularly those who travel to India become much more open and tolerant, because they are thrown into another world entirely where people have different value systems and live completely differently," he says.

Lifshitz says that he spent most of his time in South America traveling with non-Israelis.

"For 22 years, I'd heard the same perspectives, the same politics, the same arguments over the territories. It was great to cut myself off for a period of time."

HOWEVER, DESPITE some travelers' desire to leave Israel behind, it's astounding the number of young Israelis one finds during travels to remote places.

"It really is out of all proportion," Sharav said. "In the Philippines, I went to a famous stalactite cave. Jacinto, the man who guides people down to the caves, writes down the names of everybody who visits. I got him to count the number of Israelis and it turns out that out of the 1,197 people who had visited the caves with him, Filipinos included, 479 of the tourists were Israeli."

Travel tips for trekkers to be

TRAVEL tips: what to remember before you or anyone you know straps on the backpack. From Ohad Sharav, author of *The Far East Guide*.

- The most important item to bring from home is a medical kit. In addition to getting the proper injections, before departure, it is important to bring the type of medicine needed in an emergency. Malaria tends to be the biggest medical problem, and preventive medication is normally prescribed before departure. Medical recommendations for various countries change periodically. Updated recommendations can be obtained at the Health Service Center (*Lishkat Habrit*) in every major city.

- Bring the proper equipment, appropriate to places you intend to go and the types of hikes you plan to take. Careful research before you leave will tell you what needs to be bought in Israel and what can be obtained cheaper at your destination.

- Drug use is dangerous under any circumstances, but in some Asian destinations, the consequences of being caught with drugs are devastating. In Singapore and Malaysia, drug trafficking can bring the death penalty - and the government does not necessarily have to prove the distinction between using and trafficking. A recent case highlighted the phenomenon when two Australians were hanged in Malaysia for such crimes.

- AIDS - rates of HIV infection are alarming in many of the countries Israelis commonly visit.
- Guidebooks and the staff of local lodges are informed as to what kind of hikes should not be taken without a guide who knows the terrain. In such situations, it is inadvisable to try to save money by not hiring a guide. Mountains should never be climbed alone, since altitude sickness can be debilitating.

- Beware the growing image problem Israelis have in the countries that tend to attract large numbers of tourists. Many of your predecessors have not exactly been good-will ambassadors.

"It's really a shame," said Sharav. "In many countries, Israelis have developed a terrible reputation after cases of fighting over the bill with lodge managers and restaurants and other rude behavior. It's become such a severe problem that there are places in Nepal with signs reading: 'No Israelis allowed.' Seven or eight years ago, most of these countries knew nothing about Israelis. We had a clean slate. But the slate has been getting very dirty in the past few years."

Dedi Lifshitz, who traveled extensively in South America, said that the Jewish community in Peru was thrilled at first when Israeli tourists began arriving, and arranged a guest house for them. "Within two months, Israelis had stolen everything that was provided for them - bedding, utensils... After that, they didn't want to know from the Israeli tourists."

- Avoid politically unstable regions. Since a violent incident in 1991, Israelis going to India have generally stayed away from Kashmir. A.K.S.

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Wed. Apr. 20, 11:00 a.m. Senior Program: "Wills, Bequests and
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Thur. Apr. 21, 7:30 p.m. PC Users' Group "Computerized BBS"-
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Sara Brand, M.S.W.

The big guns of world accountancy target Israel

One of six multinational accountancy firms is setting up shop here; the other five could follow and revamp the sector, Allison Kaplan Sommer writes

THE "Big Six" are coming, and bringing with them a change that is expected to transform the world of certified public accountants.

The Big Six are the vast, multinational accountancy firms that dominate the international financial markets, controlling 95 percent of the global market, according to *Globe* magazine.

In every country they enter, they dominate. In Germany, Canada, Japan and Britain, the Big Six do more than 83 percent of the accounting, the magazine said. Floating a company on any major stock exchange without an assessment by a Big Six firm is relatively rare.

Last month, for the first time, an accounting firm in this country, Yigal Brightman and Co., signed on the dotted line committing itself to becoming the Israeli "member firm" of Deloitte and Touche, one of the Big Six. The occasion will be celebrated formally on April 20, when the chief executive officer of Deloitte and Touche visits.

Already, Brightman has made concrete moves toward its integration with the international firm: Last week the company dropped its local insurer in favor of participating in the insurance of Deloitte and Touche.

The other five of the six — Arthur Andersen, Price Waterhouse, Ernst and Young, KPMG and Coopers & Lybrand — are not far behind. All of them are in stages of communication with large firms here, ranging from casual flirtation to serious negotiations. Within a year, those within the industry predict, all six will have hooked up with local counterparts.

The accountancy scene here is rife with speculation over which firm will hook up with which member of the Big Six — and who will be left out. International companies will no longer think twice about which local accounting firm to consult when they choose to acquire a company here:

their firms in New York, London or Zurich will merely direct them to their member office in Tel Aviv.

The local Big Six member firms will have a huge advantage that will leave everyone else behind. When the dust settles, industry sources predict, this country will no longer have accountancy firms of all sizes.

Instead, there will be two kinds of offices: the six giants who will be guaranteed both international and local clients who are extensively involved overseas, and far behind, very small offices devoted primarily to companies whose only interest is domestic.

The most significant factor in the timing is the easing of the Arab boycott and the hoped-for successful completion of the peace process. The

large accountancy firms have hesitated for decades to formally align with firms here for fear of endangering their business in the Arab world. In addition, all of them want to be established firmly now should Israel become the Hong Kong of the Middle East.

Business here has earned a spot on the map of the international business world. The formal alliances being put together now are built on the basis of up to a decade of informal contacts between local and international firms.

Becoming a member firm is a complicated process, since a number of egos, significant prestige and plenty of money are on the line for both sides. The local partner must open up its offices and its books to a thorough inspection by the Big Six member and commit itself to sending its part-

ners and workers abroad for short and extended periods of time in order to become a fully integrated part of the international entity.

Those involved say they feel it is worth paying the price. Being a Big Six partner is an invaluable stamp of validation.

"It will undoubtedly raise the standards of the whole industry, no doubt. It's a question of time," said a source close to one of the deals who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"In order to become a member of the Big Six and to stay a part of it, you must demonstrate professionalism and a commitment to top service. This is also going to benefit the economy of the State of Israel, since the international business contacts we get as part of these affiliations will mean profit for everyone."

Like any fundamental change, there are downsides. The largest accountancy firms here will lose some freedom and maneuvering room once they are tied to a member of the Big Six.

Although there have been long-standing informal relationships with Big Six firms, they were nonexclusive ties. Firms here were able to shop around for an international accountancy firm to get the best deal for their clients.

The largest and most prestigious accountancy firms are expected to lose significant numbers of clients from the invasion of the Big Six.

"The big offices here in Israel are used to playing one of the Big Six against the others. Now they won't be able to do it anymore," said Danny Doron, president of the Institute of Certified Public Accountants in Israel. "Frankly, I think that if it were left up to them, they'd rather continue with the status quo. The biggest firms seem to be dallying before signing with a Big Six firm."

The smaller offices are scrambling to guarantee an affiliation and are openly courting the Big Six, said a partner in a firm currently in intensive negotiations.

"It's a question of survival," he said. "It is a fact of life that they are all coming. It's definitely a case of if you can't beat 'em, join 'em."

Part of joining the Big Six will mean taking on their names — either a total change or an inclusion of the name of the international firm in their title, for example, "Brightman, Deloitte and Touche." This will require a change in the bylaws of the Institute of CPAs. Currently, according to the bylaws of the Institute of CPAs, firms are not allowed to carry the name of a person who has never been an Israeli CPA.

Once the ties between offices are formalized, there will be a desk in the offices of the local firm which will specifically handle overseas clients, and in offices of the international firms there will be an Israeli desk staffed by an Israeli accountant.

Doron said he believes that maintaining these desks and other costs associated with the overseas partnerships will significantly drive up overhead costs in the larger offices, which will be passed on to clients, making top-quality accountancy more expensive.

He is also wary of the possibility of disillusionment on the part of the Big Six partners if this country does not become the economic focal point of the Middle East in the near future.

"The firms are moving here on the belief that the peace process is a done deal. If we don't have the fruits of peace that we hope for, they might ask themselves what they are doing here."

South Africa seeks its place in the global village

STOP the world — South Africa wants to get on. But some unpleasant surprises may be waiting when it does.

For decades, while other nations competed in everything from business to sports, South Africa had only itself and a few impoverished neighbors to consider. It wasn't hard to look good.

With sanctions gone and South Africa invited back into the world, its backwardness is showing.

Worker productivity is too low and resulting prices too high for South African industries to challenge the world market. Contracts to print ballots and supply ink for the country's first all-race election this month went to British firms.

Domestic companies that venture into exports — considered crucial to reviving the long-isolated economy — are coming up against European and American quality requirements unheard of at home.

"They're totally naive," said Michael Judin, a South African attorney and director of the American Chamber of Commerce. "Their competition has

The country faces an uphill return to the world economy because apartheid has taken its toll, Tina Sussman writes from Johannesburg

been restricted to each other in South Africa. Now we're thrown into a global village, and it's going to be — as the Americans say — a whole new ball game."

Lack of experience is not limited to business. From sports to health care, South Africans are being shaken from the delusion created by apartheid rulers that they live in a European-style oasis on a dark continent.

• The United Nations says South Africa's children are among the most deprived in Africa and the world in health care.

• Most households have no plumbing or electricity. Illiteracy

is estimated at 50 percent, unemployment at 40 percent.

The African National Congress, the expected winner of the April 26-28 election, supports revamping education and instituting affirmative action to give the black majority the boost it needs to rev up South Africa's engines. It has also pressured visiting sports stars and artists to work with blacks.

The South African Tourism Board is creating a central training body. With tourism being counted on as a major post-apartheid money source, the country must learn to handle visitors accustomed to five-star treatment elsewhere.

"What we lack in South Africa is a service culture," said Spencer Thomas, director of the tourism board.

"Because of ... apartheid, the serving aspect in business was always left to black people, so there was a stigma attached to it. Black people couldn't take pride in their jobs, because they knew they were the leftovers. What we need is to install a service culture in our industry so people can accept their jobs as important and take pride in them," Thomas said.

The tendency in South Africa's white-dominated business world has been to pay barely livable wages to unskilled workers, who are overwhelmingly black. Whites were virtually guaranteed jobs. The result has been inefficiency from both sides — blacks because they got little in return, whites because they got paid for doing little.

One business that has adjusted to international standards is Nu-World Industries, a manufacturer of small electrical appliances.

Company director Jeffrey Goldberg said that to break into the European market, Nu-World upgraded packaging, learned the legal requirements overseas, visited foreign trade fairs, improved training, and kept prices competitive by hiring supervisors and foremen to increase workers' efficiency.

Exports now account for 20 percent of Nu-World's business.

Judin said if more South Africans can shake off the xenophobia ingrained by apartheid and learn from foreign examples, the country should be firmly established in the First World within a couple of years.

(Associated Press)

Our speed, their savvy: The best of both worlds

A Californian hopes to combine the US global view with Israeli speed in development, Tom Tugend reports from Los Angeles

ISRAELI businessmen lack the global viewpoint of their American counterparts, but are much faster in implementing new ideas, according to Prof. Yoram Neumann. Both can learn from each other in the right setting, Neumann thinks he has it.

His setting is the United States-Israel Management Institute (USIMI) at the California State University in Dominguez Hills, a southern suburb of Los Angeles. Neumann, who is dean of the university's School of Management, says USIMI plans to start operations for sharing ideas in September with an inaugural conference on "Investing in Peace in the Middle East" and the beginning of the institute's three programs.

These are the US-Israel Executive Development Program, which will provide training on the economic, managerial and social environment of the two nations and construct a data base for business resources, investment opportunities and joint ventures.

The Managerial Research Program will explore business and economic development in Israel and the US, mainly through analysis of the two national markets and their respective management and business practices.

The third program, the Business Exchange Program, will facilitate greater contact between the two nations' university students, faculty and executives.

Although it is not part of the institute's formal charge, Neumann is optimistic that the intermingling of Israelis and Ameri-

cans will lead to joint ventures, particularly in high-tech projects.

Seminars and workshops for business executives and managers of both countries will allow them to play to their respective strengths, says Neumann.

"Management skills in Israel are still pretty low and lack global perspective, although there has been considerable improvement recently," he says.

"On the other hand, there is a much shorter research and development span in Israel between the conception of a commodity and its production. In the Israeli mind, you see an idea and then you implement it."

Some 25 students from the College of Management, an independent Tel Aviv institution, are expected in the fall.

Under the terms of the ex-

change program, these students will study one semester in Israel and the second at California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), receiving their MBA from CSUDH.

Neumann hopes to arrange for internships for some students at large corporations represented on his Dean's Advisory Council.

It is somewhat unusual to find the initiative for such an ambitious international project originating at CSUDH, a good institution with an ethnically diverse student body and a large Jewish faculty, but lacking the prestige of such prominent local research universities as the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), University of Southern California (USC) and the California Institute of Technology (Caltech).

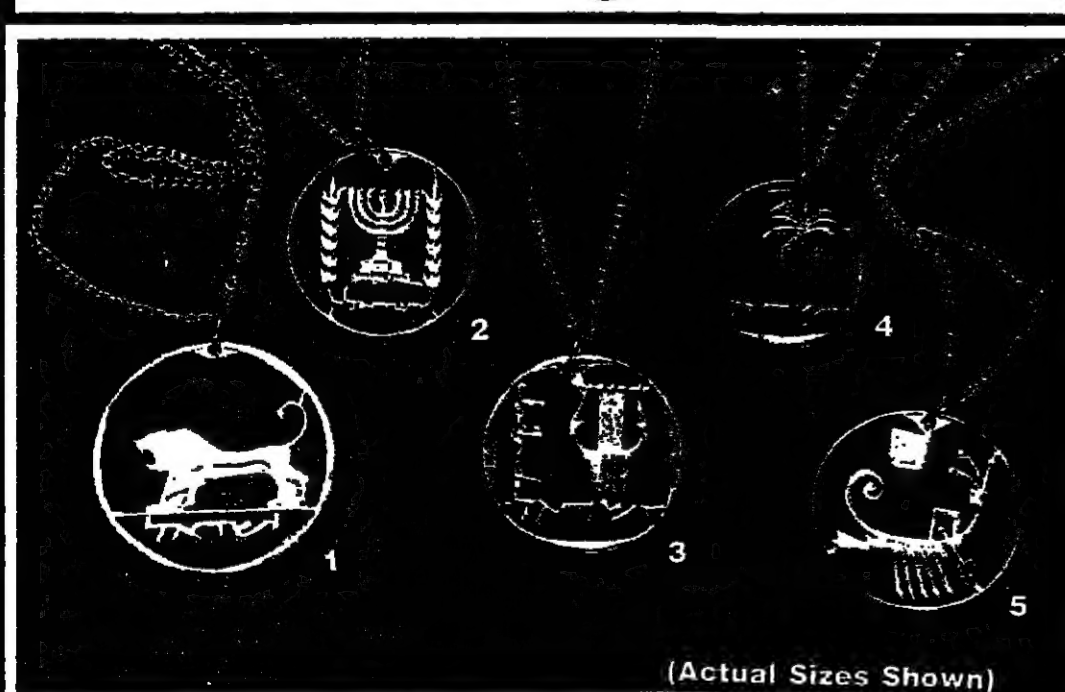
The 47-year-old Rehovot native studied at Tel Aviv University and Cornell and has taught at both.

He was appointed to his present post in 1990, after spending the preceding decade as research professor at Boston University and as dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Ben-Gurion University.

A prolific writer, he is the author of four books (the most recent titled *What It Takes to Become an Entrepreneur*) and 81 scholarly articles. Besides the Israel project, he is launching similar initiatives with Singapore and Mexico.

Neumann does not expect instant results from the US-Israel institute, but, he says, "in six to seven years, you'll see the impact."

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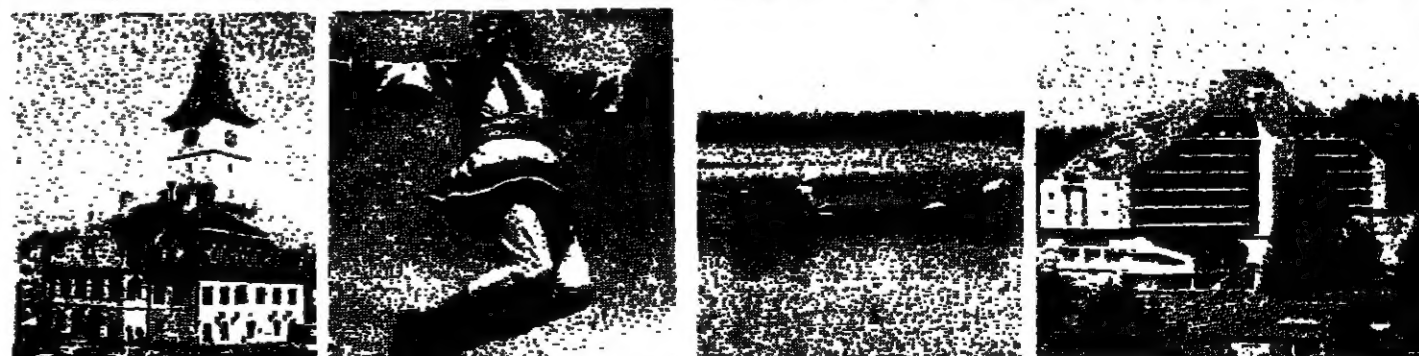
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Goa, home of St. Francis's head and shoulders

TRAVEL

BARRY ZWICK

EVERY morning here in the state of Goa, we follow our chutney with a cashew liqueur, whisper a grace to Lord Shiva and St. Francis Xavier and plunge headlong into the emerald waters of the Arabian Sea.

"The Portuguese left much behind when they left Goa in 1961," said my government guide, who introduced himself only as Boagem.

"They left their language, their faith, their style and their culture, and most of all, their spirit."

In a country where men wear loincloths to the bank and robes to the beach, where cows are pampered and humans must fend for themselves, the Indian state of Goa plays the game by different rules. It is where Indians go to party.

Goa is a narrow strip along India's southwest coast consisting of 130 km. of squeaky-clean beaches, sidewalk cafes, spectacularly beautiful baroque basilicas, Hindu temples dedicated to Shiva the Destroyer, as well as to Durga, goddess of peace. You can rent jet skis or go windsurfing here, or you can steep yourself in another culture, in fact two of them. All for peanuts.

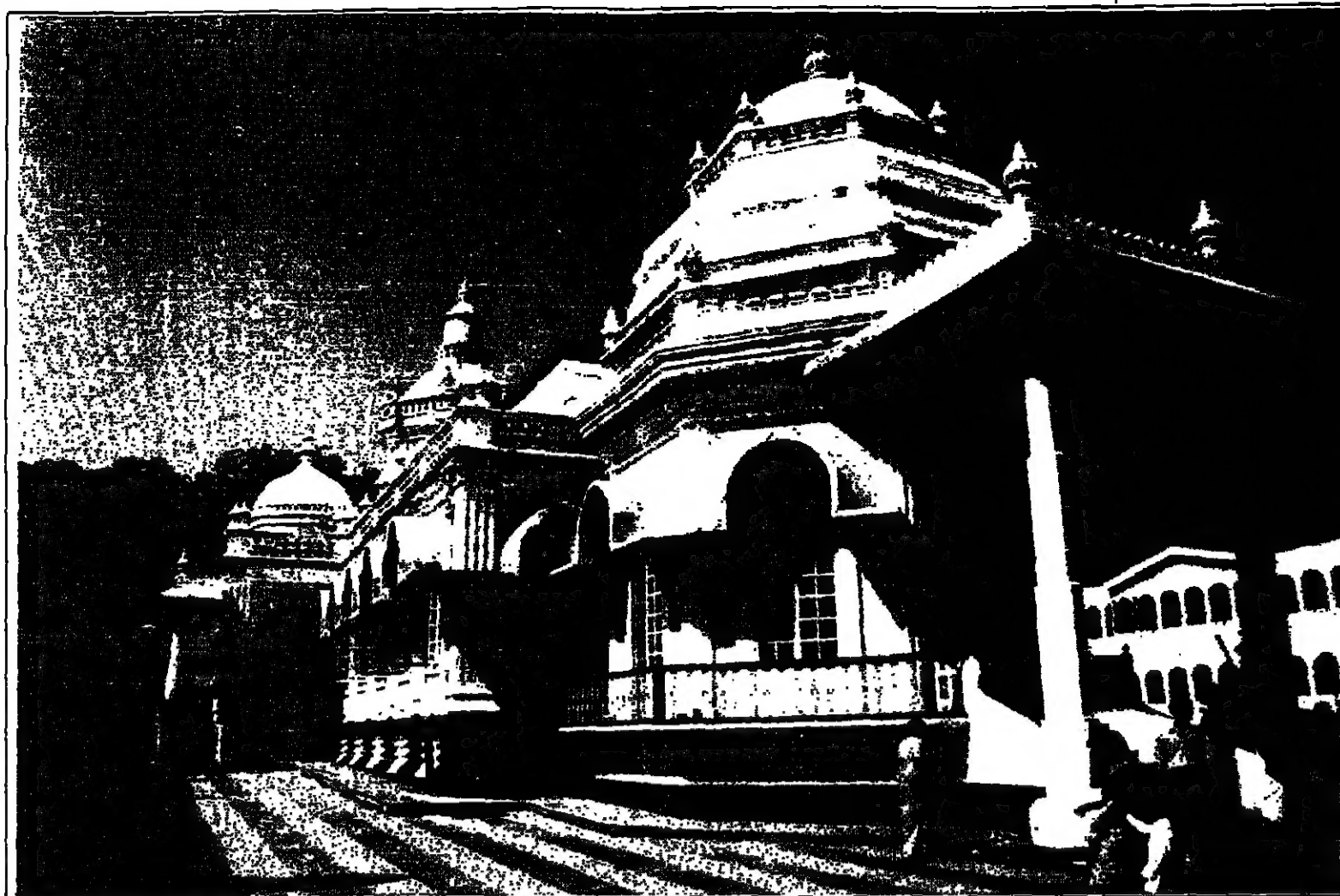
An all-day bus tour of the state, including churches, temples and beaches – and a chance to meet Indians at play – cost me \$1.60.

Oh, yes, I did have to pay for my lunch. But checking out the menu at a beachfront cafe in Colva Beach, I could find no entree of more than \$1, including steak and fresh fish. I gave my waiter a 30-cent tip and made a friend for life. Afterwards, I paid \$3 for a garish shirt that would have cost me at least \$60 in Hawaii.

Goa is so cheap that it draws large numbers of Europe's thirteenth tourists, the British. A brochure published in Britain says, "In the best five-star hotel in Goa, a steak fillet with all the trimmings will set you back well under three pounds."

I stayed at the Fort Aguada Resort, a world-class luxury hotel built in a 17th-century Portuguese fort. The rate was \$100 a night and for this I got a huge room just meters away from the surf, a daily basket of tropical fruit and a welcoming gift of fresh cashews and a bottle of excellent port. The minibar was free.

For Europeans on cheap package vacations, life in Goa centers around their hotels. The British in particular stay for as long as two weeks at a time in Goa's luxury resorts. With water sports, giant bottles of Indian beer and BBC, CNN and MTV coming in by satellite, there's more than enough to keep them busy.



The Shri Mangueshi Temple, dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, shows its Roman Catholic influence. (Barry Zwick/Los Angeles Times)

Indians come to the luxury resorts here, south of Bombay, but not necessarily with purity of heart. While the men of Goa are liberated and wear swim trunks, the women wear full-length saris even at the beach. Indian men roam the beaches for hours staring at Western female visitors in bikinis – or less. Signs on Goa's beaches warn that nudity and drug use are prohibited, a reminder of the hippie invasion of the '60s.

The government runs an all-day \$1.60 leering expedition, known officially as the North Goa Tour, in which all the stops are at beaches. Toplessness is rare these days, but Indian men go pop-eyed even at the sight of Western women in shorts, let alone bikinis. Indian women, even in

enlightened Goa, rarely expose so much as an ankle. The South Goa tour, however, focuses on churches and Hindu temples.

WHEN WE stopped at the Basilica of Bom Jesus in Old Goa, where St. Francis Xavier is buried, the Indians took off their shoes. Actually, only part of St. Francis is buried there. Two toes of his preserved body were bitten off in 1554 by a devout Portuguese woman, and part of St. Francis's right hand was shipped to the Vatican in 1615. St. Francis's semipreserved head and shoulders are displayed in a silver casket in the 16th-century church, which also displays the events of his life in brightly colored paintings.

Old Goa is the heart of the original Portuguese settlement in India, dating from 1510, and Goa's first capital. St. Francis roamed Asia as a missionary and won tens of thousands of souls for Christianity between 1541 and his death in 1552.

At our next stop was the first of two Hindu temples remarkable for the Roman Catholic influence on their architecture. Shri Mangueshi Temple, a little gem with blue pillars, crystal chandeliers and large silver idols, is dedicated to Shiva, one of the three major Hindu gods. He is in charge of war, famine, death and destruction and despite these perils is highly regarded in Goa.

My favorite stop was at Colva Beach, where

we paused for lunch. The Indians went to the packed and stifling Silver Sands restaurant, but I found an outdoor cafe near the water that looked better to me. The eight-page menu at the Falcon ran from chicken vindaloo to steak to fresh tuna sautéed in olive oil and seasoned with garlic, chili and ginger. All were under \$1. I ordered the tuna and a King's Black Label beer, made in Goa and 8.75 percent alcohol. The beer elsewhere in India is less than 5 percent alcohol.

For some of us, the highlight of the South Goa tour was the conclusion, when we returned after a steamy day with no air-conditioning on the bus to our hotel rooms for bottled water and a cold shower, followed by a Goan buffet. At the Fort Aguada Resort Hotel, the buffet was a \$9 splurge.

At the seafood station, I had a choice of clams, tiger prawns, mussels and a local flounder-like fish, the pomfret. Although tap water is iffy in Goa, fresh shellfish from the clear waters of the Arabian Sea off the coast caused no problems.

Life is good at the resort hotels – besides the Fort Aguada and the Oberoi. I visited the Taj Holiday Village and the Aguada Hermitage – and it is tempting to plant yourself there and see little else of this picturesque and exotic state. Goa is filled with palm trees, mango groves, rice paddies and majestic forests of ebony and teak. It smells like vanilla and bananas.

Fortunately, the resorts make it easy for you to escape. The Fort Aguada doorman, for example, negotiated reasonable taxi fares for me and charged them to my room, making it unnecessary for me to deal with unfamiliar currencies or exchange any money with the drivers.

Panaji, on the banks of the Mandovi River, is a great strolling town and the only city I saw in two weeks in India with no beggars or street hustlers. It was also the only one with Mediterranean-style piazzas and pastel-washed villas with balconies, pillared porches and red-tiled roofs.

I took a sunset cruise on the Mandovi, enjoying a live band, for \$1.60. As the boat, the Santa Monica, left its jetty, I saw the tall twin towers of the Church of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception silhouetted against the sky. And at nightfall, the lights of the Campal, the riverfront boulevard, illuminated the capital.

Fly British Airways, Lufthansa, Delta or Singapore Airlines to Bombay, then Indian Airlines to Goa.

The best place to rent equipment for water sports is at the water's edge, Dona Paula. A sunset cruise and all-day North Goa and South Goa Tour, Goa Tourism Development Corp., costs \$1.60. The port made in Goa is excellent, but avoid the wine called Red Riviera.

(Los Angeles Times)

Storm of applause for high-flying singer's miraculous arrival

GRAPEVINE

GREER FAY CASHMAN

NOT again" said popular singer Otha Haza when Michel Sidon, pilot of the El Al 316 flight from London to Tel Aviv, advised passengers to prepare for an emergency landing. The plane had been struck by lightning and Sidon suspected damage to the wheel mechanism. But he landed the aircraft safely at Ben-Gurion Airport to the applause of ambulance teams, fire fighters, police and airport staff on the tarmac.

The touchdown was somewhat smoother than that of the Israel Air Force Cessna which seven years ago made a forced landing in the Hebron hills when transporting Haza from a concert at a southern IAF base. IAF aviation experts later termed her survival a miracle. Remembering that previous ordeal, Haza, who has a religious background, had faith the second time around. Obviously, it was not misplaced.

WHEN YOU'RE an eighth-generation Israeli on one side of your family, and on the other side your British roots go back to the period of Oliver Cromwell, you're bound

to have an interesting mosaic of people at your bar mitzva. Edward Gera – son of Ella (nee Harris) and Oded Gera – is related to a huge array of dignitaries, including President Ezer Weizman. But the president did not attend the luncheon hosted by Edward's parents on the lawn of their spacious Kfar Shmaryahu home, because, since assuming office, Weizman does not travel on the Sabbath.

A few days earlier, however, the president entertained the Geras' large contingent of guests from Britain. Among them were Joanna and David Thomas, founders of the two-teacher, 11-pupil prep school which Edward, and his siblings, twins Raphael and Daniella, attended during the four years they spent in London before returning to Israel in 1993.

Lawyer Ella Gera, on her mother's side of the family, is a scion of the Berman family. Jerusalem's first commercial bakers. Another family member is famous art collector Ayala Zacks Abramov, who attended the bar mitzva with her husband, author and former MK Zalman Abramov. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who as a boy attended the Kadoorie agricultural school with Edward's grandfather – artist, author and former diplomat Gershon Gera – was too busy to come, but Lea Rabin took the

trouble to put in a brief appearance.

Some of the other guests included First International Bank chairman Yigal Arnon, former Tel Aviv mayor Shlomo Lahat and his wife Zlora, Ein Hod art dealer Itche Mambush, actress Gila Almagor, New York-based jewelry designer Aya Azrielant whose Israel jewelry exchange is managed by Oded Gera, former fashion model and would-be cosmetics queen Tami Ben-Ami, fashion doyenne and philanthropist Lola Baer, former ambassador to Washington Zalman Shoval, Betty Shiloah, a promoter of international cooperation and widow of Mossad founder Reuven Shiloah, MK Yael Dayan and her mother Ruth, public relations wizard Ran Rahav and his wife Hila. SuperPharm managing director Leon Koffler and his wife Irit, as well as hundreds of others.

AMONG THE many attractions at the Gera bar mitzva was a Ben & Jerry's ice-cream cart from which guests could help themselves. It was a big hit with all the children except one of the Koffler offspring who, pointing in the direction of the cart remarked, "You don't ask a member of the Strauss family to eat another brand of ice cream." Irit Koffler is the daughter of Michael Strauss,



Otha Haza: Déjà vu when it comes to emergency airplane landings.

managing director of the Strauss dairies, established by his parents in Nahariya nearly six decades ago.

BACK IN Israel after a 14-year absence in California is fashion choreographer Alan Markell, who attributes his return here to telepathy. Markell, who moved to Prague last November, could not make money there. So in January

he decided to contact some of his old clients here, including Niba managing director Israel Baruch. Baruch had been thinking of Markell as well, but didn't know how to contact him. They met, and the upshot is that Markell, using 30 models, lasers, pyrotechnics and 16 video monitors, is choreographing Niba's three 60th anniversary gala shows at Tel Aviv's Eretz Yisrael Museum. He flies back to Prague on May 2, but hopes to commute frequently to Tel Aviv.

ASKED WHETHER eruptions of violence following the Hebron massacre had caused him to have second thoughts about coming here now, French fashion designer Christian Lacroix proved himself a fatalist. His response: "You go where you want and die where you have to die."

YORAM CHISIN, coproprietor of the Christian Lacroix boutique, was angry with fashion writers who wanted to know the price of the most expensive garment. "It's not the price which is important," Chisin stressed, "it's the fashion. Anyone who needs to ask the price should not be shopping here."

RACHEL PRESSMAN, mother of

eight, is one of several Russian immigrants in the group of 16 Hebrew University graduate students who will receive scholarships from the Jerusalem branch of the Israel Association of University Women at the organization's annual awards luncheon next Tuesday.

The expansion of her family has not deterred the former Moscovite, who arrived here in 1971, from continuing her advanced research in the field of linguistics. Now she is studying for her M.A. One-month-old Mordechai, the youngest of her brood, has already had a taste of campus life. "I take him with me when I go to the university," she says. Pressman's husband, Avraham, a former cantor at Tel Aviv's Great Synagogue, is a voice trainer.

GETTING IN early, John Gough, head of Pacific Dunlop Ltd. and chairman of a top-level, 40-member Australian trade delegation, invited guests at a cocktail reception hosted by Bank Hapoalim at the Tel Aviv Hilton to visit his country when it hosts the Olympic Games in the year 2000. The trade group includes Australian business tycoon Richard Pratt, CEO of Pratt Industries, one of the world's largest paper-recycling enterprises.

IN BETWEEN tours and meetings with Israeli and Palestinian dignitaries, American civil-rights leader Jesse Jackson took time out to pay tribute to the late philosopher and theologian Abraham Joshua Heschel, who was a great friend of Jackson's mentor Martin Luther King when the young Jackson was King's assistant. Jackson planted trees in the Abraham Joshua Heschel Grove in the Jewish National Fund's American Independence Park.

BEN-GURION may have had a point when he insisted that official representatives of the state be named. Under Ben-Gurion, Col. Shalom Goldstein would in all probability have changed his name to Even-Paz. Goldstein happens to be head of the Civil Administration in Hebron.

AFTER TEACHING English at high school, college and university levels, Shai Aran has just been appointed Jerusalem district inspector of English in schools. As of September 1, she succeeds retiring long-time holder of the post Isaac Ernest.

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